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THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12, 1990/JAMADIUL THANI 15-16, 1410 AH

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22 PAGES 150 FILS

Turkey, Bulgaria relations warming

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

THE Turkish-Bulgarian talks in Kuwait have paved the way for normalisation of ties between the two countries, according to diplomatic sources.

There is a distinct possibility that Turkish-Bulgarian ties, frozen since 1984, may return to normal and both countries are "looking forward to reactivating co-operation in all spheres," sources said.

The status of ethnic Turkish Muslims in Bulgaria has been the barometer of ties between the two countries. Now that Bulgaria has shown a "political will" to make amends, and has granted basic human rights to the ethnic Turks, there seems to be optimism about improving future relations at next month's Open Skies Conference in Ottawa from Feb 12 to 15. Both sides are expected to continue the dialogue in Ankara at a future date at a joint-committee meeting.

The second-round of one-day talks between the two countries were held in a "cordial atmosphere." Although diplomats feel that the ethnic Turk issue cannot be "resolved" in a day, or at a couple of meetings, they said that they were optimistic due to the "positive and constructive" outcome of the talks in Kuwait.

Turkey and Bulgaria, in a joint-communique read at the conclusion of yesterday's meeting, have agreed to hold further talks "to make a thorough assessment" and improve relations on "sound and mutually beneficial basis."

Agencies add: Bulgaria has suggested to Turkey that they make a joint declaration on human rights to overcome years of acrimony over the treatment of Bulgaria's Turkish minority. Turkey has not committed itself to the idea but, following the downfall of Bulgaria's hardline communist leadership, says Ankara and Sofia are finally speaking the same language on the ethnic issue.

"What I proposed was ... to establish a really new departure. We want to turn a page between Bulgaria and Turkey," Bulgarian Foreign Minister Bovko Dimitrov told a news conference.

A special parliamentary panel is investigating whether ousted communist leader Todor Zhivkov illegally stashed state funds in Swiss bank accounts.

Quayle praises China decision

WASHINGTON, Jan 10. (Reuter): Vice President Dan Quayle said today that China's decision to lift martial law was a step forward for human rights and showed the wisdom of President George Bush's controversial policy of maintaining high-level contacts with Beijing.

"We view China's decision to lift martial law as a step forward. I believe that you are beginning to see dividends from the president's policy towards China," Quayle told reporters.

(Earlier report Page 6)

\$500m arms deal

Kuwait, Egypt to set up holding company

KUWAIT, Jan 10. (Agencies): A press report said here today that Kuwait will purchase an arms package worth \$500 million from Egypt during the visit of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah. Kuwait and Egypt have also agreed to set up a \$500 million holding investment company.

The Kuwaiti daily said the package will include two Antonov-type air defence systems, 63-TPS radar system, armoured vehicles equipped with MD-2 and Milan bombs and Stinger missiles.

The package will be thoroughly discussed during talks between the Kuwaiti delegation headed by Sheikh Saad and Egyptian officials led by the head of the Arab Industries Authority Ibrahim Al Orabi, said the paper quoting unidentified Egyptian military sources.

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Egypt Abdellaziz Al Kandari told another local newspaper that Kuwait will not participate in financing projects in the field of arms with Egypt.

He noted, however, that Kuwait prefers to purchase Egyptian-made arms and urged other Arab states to use Egyptian arms which have proved their fighting efficiency. Egypt and Kuwait have agreed to set up a \$500 million

holding company which will control joint investment. Egyptian Prime Minister Atif Sadiq said.

Sadiq, quoted by Egyptian newspapers today, said after talks with Sheikh Saad, Kuwait also agreed to take part in planned reclamation of 400,000 acres (162,000 hectares) of land.

The Egyptian prime minister was quoted as saying Kuwait would contribute \$200 million for the farming scheme, estimated to cost a billion pounds (\$380 million).

No other details were immediately available.

Kuwait and Egypt have signed an agreement for bilateral co-operation in judicial affairs.

The agreement, signed by Kuwait's Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhani Abdalla Al Othman and his Egyptian counterpart Farouk Seif Al Nasr.

The agreement provides for mutual extradition of persons convicted with freedom-restricting punishments so as to be rehabilitated in their home countries out of the keenness of humanitarian reasons.

Sheikh Saad, on the third day of his visit to Egypt, today visited military plants of Abu Zaabal, near Cairo.

At the Menia plant Sheikh Saad was briefed by Egyptian State Minister of War Industries Jamal Al Sayyed.



Sheikh Saad visiting the Panorama of October 6 war.



The Crown Prince cutting a cake during his visit to the Kuwaiti embassy in Cairo.



Clock calls Muslims for prayer

Algerian Abderrazak Taleb of Wetries, northern France, kneels in prayer behind his invention, a clock which calls the Muslim faithful to prayers five times a day. A replica of the Omar Mosque in Occupied Jerusalem, the clock is programmed by entering the longitude and latitude of the city, allowing Muslims to pray simultaneously with those in Holy Makkah. (Reuter wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

Aoun recruiting women: Another male bastion in the war of the sexes falls this month in Lebanon: the armed forces of General Michel Aoun are recruiting women for combat roles.

Among units accepting women will be the military police and presidential guard. Women can also join the small air force and navy.

The leftist newspaper As Safir today quoted an unnamed financial source as saying Aoun's deposits in European and American banks are estimated at more than \$100 million. (Reuter)

IRA leader charged with murder: Danny Morrison, a leader of the IRA political wing and propaganda mastermind of its guerrilla cause, was charged today with conspiracy to murder.

The Sinn Fein publicist, director, who conducted his own defence in court, was also charged with unlawful imprisonment and membership of the Irish Republican Army, the outlawed group battling to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Four other men appeared in court on the same charges. (Reuter)

Woman wins \$9 million suit: More than \$9 million in damages has been awarded to a Texas woman by a federal jury who found that Xerox Corp. discriminated against her because of her age.

The Dallas jury on Tuesday awarded Elizabeth Layman \$284,000 in actual damages and \$75 million in punitive damages, concluding that Xerox has fraudulently forced Ms. Layman to relocate to California and then refused to provide her a job.

Xerox said it will ask US district judge Sidney Fitzwater to overturn the verdict. If it refuses, it will appeal. (AP)

Gorbachev indisposed: Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was ill over the Christmas period and "may even have entered hospital for a few days," a national British newspaper reported today.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper made the revelation in a front page story quoting a senior Lithuanian communist party member.

The paper pointed out that rumour, officially denied in Moscow late last month, said he had suffered back trouble.

It noted that some people thought he looked strained while delivering his pre-recorded New Year's television message to the nation. (Kuna)

Obscene calls for Noriega: Manuel E. Noriega has been receiving a lot of obscene phone calls lately, and who wants to make one thing perfectly clear: he's the wrong guy.

"I do not wear red underwear. I am not from Panama, I'm from Mexico," said Manuel Evaristo Noriega, 84, of Miami beach.

The Mexican Noriega has been receiving calls from people who apparently have confused him with Manuel Antonio Noriega, the deposed Panamanian dictator who reportedly is fond of red briefs. (UPI)

President of Xerox France shot in hostage-taking

PARIS, Jan 10. (Agencies): A disgruntled former employee shot and critically wounded the head of Rank Xerox France yesterday after holding him and four other employees hostage at gunpoint for several hours, police said.

Oliver Groues, managing director of Xerox's French subsidiary, was reported in critical condition late yesterday after the other hostages were released unharmed and Daniel Vieille, a former sales employee, was taken into custody, police said.

Michel Requin, substituting public prosecutor for Nanterre, said Vieille, 45, demanding restitution for his dismissal eight years ago, held the employees hostage with a sawed-off automatic hunting rifle.

Pakistan warned over Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Jan 10. (Agencies): India issued a warning today to Pakistan over its alleged support for pro-secession Muslims in strife-torn Kashmir, where at least two people died during a shootout between security forces and militants, official sources said.

The deaths brought to at least 19 the number of fatalities since the latest round of violent anti-India protests erupted on Monday in towns around the Kashmir region, over which both India and Pakistan claim sovereignty.

Troops and paramilitary and local police ordered to shoot rioters on sight enforced curfews in at least eight towns today, permitting a four-hour respite only in one town of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, some 400 miles (640 km) north of New Delhi.

Official sources said scores of residents, most of them women, defied the curfew in Srinagar's Shab-e-Gauj locality and gathered in a street to hurl rocks and anti-Indian invectives at security personnel.

Armed militants in the crowd then opened fire at a paramilitary patrol, sparking a gunbattle. The source said a civilian and a member of the paramilitary central reserve police force were killed in the brief firefight.

There were no immediate reports of new violence in any of the seven other towns in which curfews were in force.

The predominantly Muslim Kashmir region of the state is embroiled in an escalating campaign of protests, killings and bombings by underground extremist groups demanding secession from India. Some groups advocate union with the neighbouring Islamic republic of Pakistan, while others are calling for complete independence.

Scores of people have died since the agitation began about two years ago.

Army units moved into four Kashmir towns yesterday to try to halt Muslim separatist violence, police and witnesses said.

Chief Secretary Moosa Raza, the state's top civil servant, said a suspect attached to the intelligence wing of the police was shot and killed by Muslim militants in Burewala, west of Srinagar. Another policeman was killed in neighbouring Rawalpora.

In Burewala, 45 kilometres (28 miles) north of Srinagar, demonstrators set two government buildings on fire, he said.

Witnesses reached by telephone said two people were killed and several injured when police opened fire in Srinagar to disperse several hundred demonstrators.

Army units moved into the towns of Srinagar, Sopore, Anantnag and Banipora, officials and witnesses said.

A powerful bomb planted by Sikh separatists exploded in the office of a senior Hindu police officer in Punjab today, killing him and three others on the spot, police said.

The bomb had a timing device and was hidden in a wooden foot rest below the desk of a senior superintendent of police Govind Ram, they said.

The blast occurred at Jalandhar, southeast of the Sikh holy city of Amritsar.

Jalandhar superintendent of police Suresh Arora said the blast killed Ram and three other policemen. At least 20 other people, mostly policemen, were injured. (See Page 2)

Soviets to host Iraq-Iran talks

Tehran gives go-ahead

MOSCOW, Jan 10. (AP): Iran has given the go-ahead to resume stymied peace settlement talks with Iraq, and this time they will be mediated and hosted by the Soviet Union, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati sent a message to Moscow saying Iran was willing to resume the talks, which stalled this April in Geneva, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov said.

Iraq had already agreed to the Soviet proposal for trilateral talks, so "now it is possible to start the practical working-out of this question," Gerasimov told a Moscow briefing.

He said he had no details on when and where the talks would be held.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, during an official visit to Iran in August, had offered the Soviet Union's help in mediating the deadlocked talks.

At the time, Tehran Radio quoted Shevardnadze as saying the Soviet Union was willing to exploit good relations with both Gulf war foes in an effort to further the talks.

The Soviets have leverage with Baghdad as Iraq's main arms supplier in the Gulf war, and Iraq and the Soviet Union are bound by a treaty of friendship and co-operation.

Tehran also has signed big gas deals with Moscow along with other trade agreements, reversing years of bad relations with the Soviet Union when it had been grouped with America as a "great satan."

No progress was reported at the last round of direct negotiations between Velayati and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz in Geneva in April.

UN-sponsored Iran-Iraq talks began just five days after a ceasefire took effect on Aug 20, 1988, but have remained deadlocked despite several rounds of negotiations.

Armenian negotiator Requin said the talks had been deadlocked.

The plane and its cargo was thoroughly searched but no bomb was found, a spokeswoman for the Indian Consulate in Karachi said.

The Boeing 747 carrying 281 passengers and crew on a flight from Frankfurt to New Delhi and Bombay changed course after Indian officials in New Delhi told Pakistani air controllers they had received a bomb threat. Pictures show an airport worker cycles in front of a Boeing 747 as the plane taxies on the tarmac at Hong Kong's Kai Tak airport. (Reuter wirephoto)

AN Air India airliner that was forced to divert to Karachis on Wednesday because of a bomb threat resumed its scheduled journey to New Delhi after an 11-hour delay when searchers found nothing.

"The plane and its cargo was thoroughly searched but no bomb was found," a spokeswoman for the Indian Consulate in Karachi said.

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Baku, capital of Soviet Azerbaijan, was proof of Tehran's intentions.

Iraq said earlier the delegation was in Baku to discuss tourist visits between Iran and Azerbaijan.

Local journalists in Azerbaijan told Reuters in Baku that leaders of the southern republic had agreed to allow freer movement for ethnic Azeris on either side of the border.

Iranian television screened yesterday film of a peaceful gathering by hundreds of Azeris on the Soviet bank of the Araks border river on Sunday.

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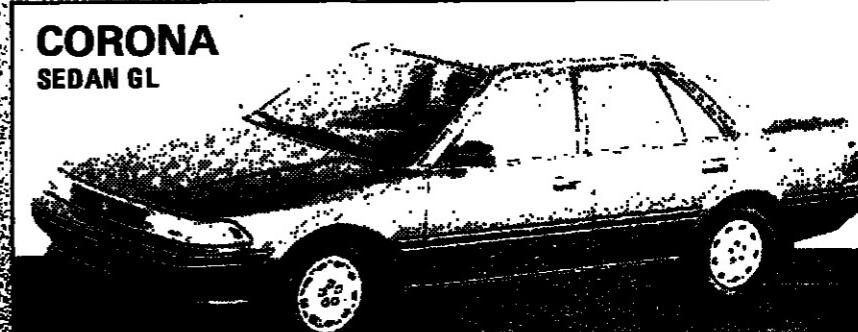
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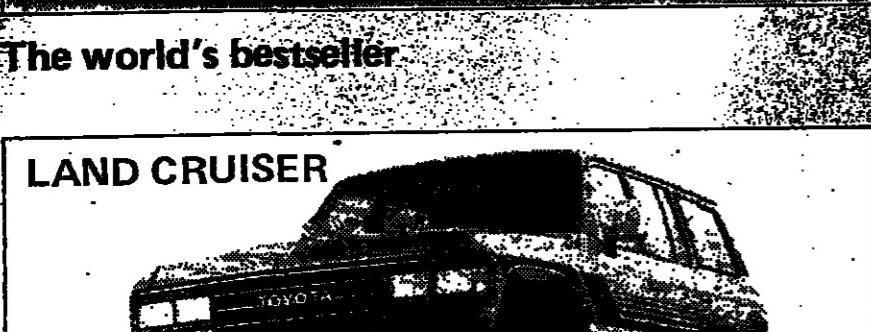
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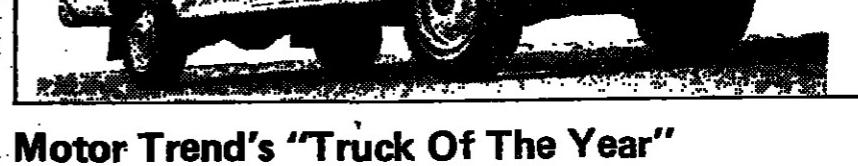
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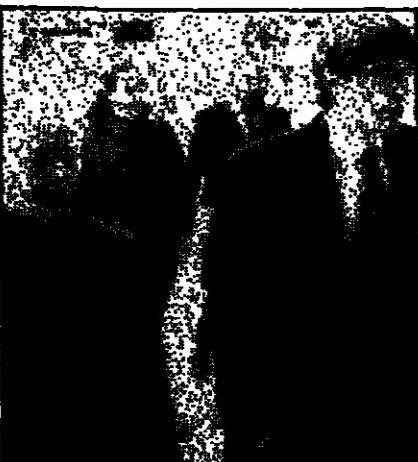
After 70 years Mother and son united

PISTOIA, Italy, Jan 10, (Reuters): An Italian woman of 91 who gave up her son for adoption in 1916 was reunited with him yesterday after she discovered that he lived down the road.

"I wanted to find my son before I die," Asunta Rabuzzi, from the town of Larciano in central Italy, told reporters.

Rabuzzi, who has other children, had no news of her son Maggiolini since he was adopted at birth but found out after a long search that he lived less than 25 km away.

Maggiolini, 74, had a second surprise at yesterday's reunion. He recognised a man introduced as his brother because they had been in adjacent beds at a local hospital a few years ago.



Morris (right) enters the Federal Building in Syracuse for the first day of court. He is accused of creating a computer worm that crippled military and college computers linked to a nationwide network. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tampering trial

Computer worm source traced

SYRACUSE, New York, Jan 10, (UPI): A Cornell University computer expert said it took him four days to trace to its source the "worm" programme federal prosecutors contend a bright hacker used to "assault" a network of computers across the United States.

On the first day of the computer-tampering trial of Robert Morris Jr., expert witness Dan Kraft testified yesterday found "a cryptic, compressed" version of the programme that crippled some 6,000 computers nationwide on Nov. 2, 1988.

Kraft, testifying before about 50 reporters and spectators in the federal courtroom, said he discovered the rogue programme planted by the former Cornell graduate student after four days of study and sifting through records.

The testimony by Kraft, director of the computer facilities at Cornell, seemed to bolster accusations federal prosecutor Mark Rasch made in opening statements that Morris launched a "full-scale assault" on military and research computer networks with a programme purposely made "hard to defeat."

The government is attempting to prove that Morris, 25, slowed operations of about 6,000 computers by planting a "worm" that infiltrated strategic computer networks.

"There was a full-scale assault on the computers throughout the United States launched by the defendant. This was a deliberate effort," Kraft said.

Defense attorney Thomas Guidoboni said he would show the "worm" was merely an experiment gone awry.

America

King day to be marked: Bells in 144 countries and all 50 US States will ring out Monday to honour Martin Luther King Jr., on what would have been the slain civil rights leader's 61st birthday.

For the first time, the day will be celebrated on a large scale in white-ruled South Africa, pro-democracy demonstrations around the world last year also have added impetus to the holiday by mirroring King's tactics and philosophy.

League seeks Marshal Plan: An urban Marshall Plan and investment bank is needed to close the economic gap between white and black citizens and to ensure the nation's competitiveness, a leading civil rights group said Tuesday in Washington.

The call came as the national urban league released its 15th annual report, "the state of black America."

Blackjack

Casinos don't shuffle enough

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Jan 10, (AP): A new study indicates that casinos don't shuffle their cards enough to baffle blackjack experts, but players and officials in this casino city say don't bet on it.

When a deck is shuffled, it retains fragments of its previous configuration. That can be important in blackjack, a game which attracts card-counters — players with copious memories and the lightning-quick ability to calculate probabilities.

If a card-counter senses a pattern repeating itself, he'll make a huge wager. Blackjack has lower odds in favour of the house than most other casino games, and over the course of a few hours' play card-counters often can beat the house.

The study says that a single deck must be shuffled seven times before the ghosts of the previous configuration disappear and that six decks must be shuffled 12 times; most casinos use eight decks, but shuffle them only twice.

But more shuffling means less betting time, and casino officials said that would have a greater effect on their profit than a few card-counters.

Blacks heading south: The percentage of American blacks living in the south is growing for the first time in more than a century, according to a census bureau study in Washington.

After decades of moving north and west in search and more opportunity away from segregated states, blacks are heading back south. The region has seen a significant growth in jobs in recent years, population experts said, and it has opened up considerably in the wake of civil rights laws. (AP)

Bush voices outrage: President George Bush vowed on Tuesday to battle racism and said he was outraged by a series of bombings, hate mail and threats against civil rights organisations.

"When we hear of bombings, obscene phone calls, hate mail — each one of us must speak out. And there is no place for the baggage of bigotry in the United States of America," Bush said at a ceremony honouring the assassinated civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. (UPI)

Allow Bible on school grounds: The Justice Department urged the supreme court Tuesday to allow student Bible and prayer groups to meet on public school grounds, arguing that such a ruling would preserve the country's religious freedom.

However, a lawyer for school officials in Omaha, Nebraska, whose refusal to approve a Bible-reading club led to the case, said education administrators must have the authority to make such decisions. (AP)

Court to hear Minnesota case: The US Supreme Court on Monday agreed to decide whether governors may withhold state national guard units from peacetime training ordered by the federal Minnesota who opposed Central American training missions for the state's national guard troops.

The justices last April rejected a similar appeal officials in the state of Massachusetts. (AP)

Gallery solves Bellini mystery: After four years of work, the national gallery of art said Tuesday it has solved a major art mystery by discovering that an obscure Italian painter was responsible for mysterious alterations in Giovanni Bellini's masterpiece "The Feast of The Gods."

David Bull, the gallery's chief of painting conservation, said an extensive laboratory analysis shows that Bellini's 475-year-old work was repainted at only by his former pupil, Titian, and by Domenico Dolce, court painter to Duke Alfonso d'Este of Ferrara. (AP)

Organisers hopping mad: An importer has spawned a controversy by entering giant frogs in the annual frog jump jubilee, making some people hopping mad because the jumbo jumpers can stretch three feet (a metre) and weigh up to 15 pounds (6.8 kilos).

Organisers say Andy J. Koffman, 40, has created a "superfrog crisis" with his bid to enter 10 oversized amphibians from Africa in the whimsical competition started by Mark Twain's story, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County." (AP)

Rare Papal bust may go boom: Christie's will auction a rare bust of Pope Gregory XV sculpted in 1621 and estimated to bring more than \$1 million, officials at the auction house said Tuesday.

The bust, by Gianlorenzo Bernini, was scheduled to go up block Wednesday about noon as part of a 238-lot auction at Christie's Manhattan office. Christie's spokeswoman Susan Britman said. (UPI)

Disneyland planning expansion: A bigger, flashier Disneyland — possibly including an "Indiana Jones" stunt attraction and a 1930s-style Hollywood movie lot — are on the drawing boards, Disney officials said.

Officials are keeping a tight lid on their plans, reportedly the most ambitious since the park's opening in 1955, until Friday. That's when Disney chairman Michael Eisner is scheduled to make an announcement. (AP)

Satellite deployed: Columbia's astronauts smoothly put a navy communications satellite into orbit yesterday and sped on to a rendezvous with a science laboratory they want to pluck from space before it falls to earth.

"We had a good deploy ... it looked real great," reported mission specialist David Low as the 15,200-pound (6,894 kg) Syncom satellite slipped out of its berth and spun away, leaving the cargo bay empty and ready to receive the science package on Friday.

"We copy. Congratulations," NASA's mission control replied.

Forty-five minutes after release, an onboard motor fired to propel the satellite toward its permanent working post 22,300 miles (35,900 km) above the Pacific. (AP)

13-year-old girl sentenced: A 13-year-old girl convicted of soliciting the murder of her father was sentenced to 15 years to life.

Michelle Say was turned over to the California youth authority after Tuesday's sentencing. She was accused of letting two former boyfriends into her Manteca home before she went to her seventh grade classes the morning of her father's murder last March. (AP)

4 killed in copter crash: Four soldiers have been killed in the crash of an Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter during desert exercises.

The helicopter crashed Tuesday afternoon about 14 miles (23 kilometres) east of the main post of the Sprawling Mojave Desert base, said Capt Gary Cleland. (AP)

Transplant

Heart-liver recipient in hospital: The world's first recipient of a heart-liver transplant, Stormie Jones, was in serious condition Tuesday at a children's hospital of Pittsburgh, where she was undergoing tests a spokesman said.

The 12-year-old was admitted three days ago, said Marcy Buczynski. The spokeswoman said doctors were awaiting results of a liver biopsy. Buczynski would not give the nature of the girl's ailment but said she was not confined to bed.

The White Settlement, Texas, girl has been treated and off over the past six years for mild episodes of organ rejection.

Stormie received a new heart and liver at children's hospital in 1984.



Cult killers

Alice, Damon and Jeffery Lundgren, accused in the religious cult slaying of a Kirtland, Ohio family of five, appear in San Diego Municipal Court for arraignment. (Reuters wirephoto)

Medical file

Tumour

Abnormal growth: A 7-year-old Soviet boy who is 6 feet (1.8 m) tall and nearly 200 pounds (90 kgs) underwent surgery at the Mayo Clinic Tuesday to remove a pituitary gland tumour responsible for his abnormal growth.

Surgeons spent three hours removing the tumour, which was about two-thirds the size of a racquet ball, from Igor Ladjan's head. The tumour was pressing on his brain and resulted in an overproduction of growth hormone, causing his phenomenal stature.

"When I spoke to the surgeons," they said there were no surprises and things are going as planned," Mayo spokesman Chris Gade said. "They told me the first 24 hours kind of determine some things for them."

Mayo officials said the boy seems to have tolerated the surgery very well and was doing well early in the recovery period at the Mayo's Saint Mary's Hospital. (UPI)

Lifestyle

Lifestyles, disease linked: Non-communicable diseases, caused by the nature of lifestyles, are responsible for 70 to 80 per cent of deaths in the developed countries and about 50 per cent of those in the developing countries, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Basically "man-induced," the non-communicable diseases are the result of choice of lifestyles — notably by too much fatty foods, salt, and alcohol, by tobacco, lack of exercise and by polluted air.

Lifestyles are no longer purely conditioned by climate or culture, according to Dr Evgeni Chigan, director of WHO's division of non-communicable disease and health technology.

They are influenced by newspapers, magazines, radio, films and television. Lifestyles are imitated as fast as the written and electronic media transmit ideas from country to country," he said.

Improper diet alone carries the risk of stroke, heart disease, hypertension, colorectal, and stomach cancers, diabetes, osteoporosis (a bone disease), malnutrition, obesity and gastric ulcers. (Kuna)

Fat

Rice bran lowers cholesterol: Rice bran appears to be as effective as oat bran in lowering levels of "bad" cholesterol, researchers reported Tuesday.

In a 10-week study of 11 adults funded by various rice companies, Louisiana State University researchers said they found diets rich in rice bran lowered levels of low density lipoprotein — the so-called "bad" cholesterol — by 7 per cent.

"This is the first human study (of rice bran) with a really controlled dietary intake," said Mares Hegsted, a nutritionist who led the study. "We know exactly what the participants ate so that we could isolate whether rice bran effectively lowers cholesterol."

The subjects, ages 20 to 57, had initial cholesterol levels of 199 to 252 — from below-normal to above-normal levels. High cholesterol levels are thought by many doctors to increase the risk of heart disease. (UPI)

Typhoid

Swiss oral vaccine approved: The Food and Drug Administration has approved an oral typhoid vaccine with fewer side effects than the injected vaccines that are currently available, officials said Tuesday.

"This vaccine will be important to tourists, business people and the military travelling to remote, less-developed areas where sanitation is poor," said Louis Sullivan, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, parent agency of the FDA.

The vaccine was developed and is made by the Swiss Serum and Vaccine Institute in Berne, Switzerland. Berna Products Corp. of Coral Gables, Florida, will distribute the vaccine as Vivolti berne vaccine.

Typhoid fever is rare in the United States. About 400 to 500 cases are reported annually, and the majority of them the infection was contracted in other countries, the FDA said.

The disease is caused by a bacterial organism called salmonella typhi, which is spread through contaminated food and water. Infection is marked by prolonged fever, headache and malaise. About 10 per cent of untreated cases and less than 1 per cent of treated cases are fatal. (UPI)

UK rejects calls: The Ministry of Defence rejected opposition Labour Party demands Tuesday to outlaw the peacetime use of Royal Navy lasers, reportedly capable of blinding enemy pilots.

Labour's Martin O'Neil called on the government to follow the example of the United States' and Soviet Union by signing an agreement to prohibit the lasers in peacetime exercises. (AP)

UK post never fails: A letter from Norway to Britain with oil: the family name on the envelope was correctly delivered in an English village six days later, the recipient said Tuesday.

"We are just full of admiration for the post office but we can't imagine how they managed it," said Marit Torkildsen of Great Baddow near Chelmsford, Essex, 30 miles (48 kilometres) east of London.

She said an elderly friend wrote "Family Torkildsen" on the envelope and posted it on Dec. 14 from Rjukan in the Telemark district of southern Norway. It was delivered Dec. 20, but the story has only just emerged in the local Essex Chronicle weekly. (AP)

Portuguese PM in Washington: Portuguese Prime Minister Antnio Cavaco Silva flew Wednesday to Washington for an official two-day visit including talks with President George Bush, diplomatic sources said.

"At a moment of profound transformations in Europe, we want the United States to understand that Portugal is its most reliable European ally," said a senior diplomat asking to remain unnamed. (UPI)

Vessel evacuated in storm: Nine helicopters, co-ordinated by the Royal Air Force, evacuated 300 crew members from their North Sea accommodation vessel Tuesday after two of its eight anchor cables broke in a storm.

Owners Shell UK Ltd. said 75 crew were staying on board the safe Gothic moored beside the company's Brent Charlie platform 130 miles (210 kilometres) northeast of the Shetland Islands. (AP)

Austria ban continues: Austria's environmentally motivated night driving ban for heavy trucks on tourist routes will continue, it was announced in Vienna today after the Austrian, West German and Italian transport ministers met in Frankfurt on Tuesday.

Italy and West Germany also did not move from their retaliatory measures against Austria's trucks.

European Economic Community (EEC) officials, who also took part, announced



Soviets celebrate

Soviet models celebrate the newest issue of Playboy featuring the women of Russia during a reception in Moscow (Reuters wirephoto)

Europe

Markov widow seeks clues: The widow of Georgi Markov, the Bulgarian emigre who is believed to have been murdered in Britain by a poisoned umbrella, has gone to Bulgaria seeking more information on the case.

The Foreign Office said Tuesday that embassy staff in Sofia had been instructed to offer full co-operation to Amabel Markov following her death on Wednesday and Thursday.

Investigators concluded that Markov, a broadcaster for the British Broadcasting Corporation's Bulgarian service, was killed by poison injected through an umbrella tip he was waiting for bus on Sept. 29, 1978. Before he fell into a coma, Markov told friends he had been jabbed from behind. (AP)

Stolen Matisse works found: Police pulled over a man for a routine check and discovered eight stolen works by Matisse valued at 75 million francs (\$1.25 million) rolled up in the back seat of his car, officials said in Nice, France.

Francis Cochet, 24, was held for questioning in the theft of the works — five oil paintings, two drawings and one engraving — that were discovered missing on Dec. 29, said police sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified. (AP)

Gummen shoot dead: Two gunmen shot to death a member of the Ulster Defence Regiment militia Tuesday as he stood behind the counter of his shoe shop in Castlederg.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the shooting in Castlederg, 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of Belfast, but police said they believed it was the work of the Irish Republican Army.

Bewigged speaker Bernard Weatherill, who overseas the so-called mother of parliaments, shouted angrily: "This place sounds like a jungle."

<p

Oldest meteorite found in China

BEIJING, Jan 10, (AP): Chinese scientists have discovered what they say is the world's largest and oldest meteorite near Shenyang in northeastern China, an official daily newspaper reported today.

Geologists estimate the meteorite, known to local farmers as Hushitai Hill, is 4.5 to 4.6 billion years old and fell to Earth 1.9 billion years ago, the China Daily said.

\$35m winner turns up for work

NEW YORK, Jan 10, (AP): A 49-year-old Italian auto assembly line worker from Westchester County who won \$35 million says he went to work Monday and didn't tell anyone he'd won the largest unshared prize in New York lottery history.

Antonio Bueti of Bedford Hills looked around at his fellow workers and "was thinking many friends I've got. I was thinking I hope they win someday," he said.

Bueti attended a news conference yesterday with his wife of 24 years, Francesca. Both said they were unsure how they would spend their money, but they knew their lives would never be the same.

"I'm very nervous and very excited," said Bueti, who came to this country 23 years ago from Calabria.

He added he was unsure whether he would quit the job that earns him between \$30,000 and \$35,000 a year — pocket change compared to the 21 annual payments of about \$1,666,666 (\$1,210,416 after taxes) he will begin to receive starting in about two weeks.

Why did he go to work on Monday? "I went in just to be funny, to see how I feel, a millionaire working the assembly line," he said.

Repeatedly

Bueti was in the kitchen of his Bedford Hills home when he realized late Saturday that he had the winning numbers, which he had chosen at random. He confirmed it repeatedly by calling the lottery information line before he left.

"Police searched Brown's pockets and found a picture of Mrs Longden as an infant, a pair of China earrings, a watch and two pairs of knickers — the British term for panties.

Brown told police he had gone to the apartment to retrieve some compromising belongings, and had been pursued by her new boyfriend, Denon Redmond.

According to Brown, Redmond did the smashing.

The prosecution contended that Brown had hoped to revive his three-year relationship with Mrs Longden, and lost his temper when he encountered Redmond.

"I am almost afraid to mention the words 'ladies' knickers' in this case," judge John Gower said in his summation on Monday, "because they have assumed a proportion out of all proportion to any sensible consideration of this case."

Brown didn't testify, but his attorney, Edward Rees, said in summation: "It's the hope of the defence that a common-sense jury will consider that a man is not going to walk around the streets with knickers hanging out of his pocket."

On Sunday an actress perpetrating a hoax claimed to have the winning ticket and attracted some media attention, but the lottery release said Bueti had confirmed his ticket by calling the lottery information line and was confident his ticket was legitimate before he turned it in.

Degree fraud

200 sent for trial in Italy

TURIN, Italy, Jan 10, (Reuters): More than 200 people were sent for trial in Italy yesterday in connection with the alleged sale of phoney university degrees for tens of thousands of dollars by a bogus bishop.

The degrees, many in medicine and dentistry, are alleged to have been awarded after an examination in up to 35 subjects in 30 minutes that was usually followed by a fancy dinner.

Investigating magistrate Lorenzo Foggi said candidates paid up to 70 million lire (\$35,000) for the degree, issued by self-styled Bishop Pierino Gemmato as rector of the Turin-based "Pro Pace Academy."

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They said the meteorite mound, located about 20 kilometres (12 miles) southeast of Shenyang, is 160 to 190 metres (525 to 623 feet) long, 50 to 100 metres (164 to 328 feet) wide and 40 to 120 metres (131 to 393 feet) high. It weighs about 2 million tonnes and is covered with granite.

The daily said geologists discovered the meteorite in 1984 after deposits of ferro-nickel ore were detected there. Further

excavation found substances distinctively different in structural composition and geological age from the surrounding area.

The scientists found in the area around the granite foundation a glass-like substance apparently formed under high temperatures and pressure when the meteorite hit the Earth, the newspaper said.

Geologists since have found evidence of a large group of meteorites covering up to

300 square kilometres (120 square miles) in the suburbs of Shenyang.

The report said the meteorite predates the oldest rock originating on Earth, believed to be about 3.6 billion years old, and its nodular structure is a byproduct of the formation of the solar system.

Study of the meteorite could provide valuable information about the secrets of the universe, it said.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES



Restructured face

Police officer John Williams displays pictures of a reconstructed head of a dead 15 or 16-year-old girl found in Cardiff on Jan 8, whose body was discovered buried in a roll of carpet, possibly murdered five years ago. Artist Richard Neave used the shape of the skull to build a clay model of the victim. (Reuter wirephoto)

HONG KONG: Police say they have arrested a man in Hong Kong in connection with the seizure of 143 pounds (64.86 kgs) of heroin concealed in cans of Chinese fruit imported to Los Angeles.

Ms. Lowry's "Number the Stars" won for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in 1989.

Young was selected for his illustrations in "Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China."

The awards, announced Monday, are administered by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association. (AP) *

nia, on Saturday in connection with the drug bust, the statement said. (AP)

NEW WILMINGTON, Pennsylvania: The Reverend Jeb Stuart Magruder, a former aide to President Richard Nixon who spent seven years in prison for the Watergate Scandal, said his life took a tumble when he strayed treating Nixon like God.

The drugs would have sold for about \$64 million in the United States, the statement said.

Officers of the US Drug Enforcement Agency and US Customs also arrested two men — a Chinese and a Vietnamese — in Alhambra, California, on Saturday in connection with the drug bust, the statement said.

SANTA ANA, California: A crematorium has been ordered to pay nearly \$1.9 million to the owners of a next-door auto shop who couldn't stand the stench.

"It's an outrageous, noxious smell that I don't think any normal person could stand without gagging," Larry Hunt, co-owner of the auto shop in Laguna Beach, said Monday.

A superior court jury voted 11-1 on Friday to award \$800,000 for emotional distress. On Monday, it voted unanimously to award punitive damages of nearly 1.1 million dollars against McCormick Mortuary and its operator, Robert McCormick Jr. (AP)

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\$175m 'slow death' suit

Veronica Prego sits in a New York courtroom Jan 8. Prego brought a \$175 million suit against the New York Health and Hospital Corp. and two doctors claiming she caught AIDS by pricking her finger on an infected hypodermic needle while working at Kings County Hospital. Her attorney is charging that the city is responsible for the slow death of the physician. (Reuter wirephoto)

Guilty of love nest smash-up

Knicker-nicking MP

LONDON, Jan 10, (AP): Ron Brown, the occasionally brawling far-left member of parliament, won a legal victory yesterday when a jury found him innocent of stealing two pairs of knickers from his ex-mistress.

But the parliamentarian from Edinburgh, Leith, was found guilty of breaking nearly all the glass in her apartment, including a mirror scrawled with the word "love."

Brown was fined 1,000 pounds (\$1,600), ordered to pay prosecution costs of 2,500 pounds (\$4,000) and also to pay 628 pounds (\$999) to Nomra Longden to repair the damage to her apartment.

"It's difficult for someone with left-wing politics, with a Scots accent, sometimes getting a fair hearing," Brown said outside the court in Lewes.

The case did nothing to dim the 49-year-old Brown's reputation as the most individual individual in parliament — a supporter of the communist government of Afghanistan, friend of Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi and personalization of the militant wing of the Labour Party.

Andrew Rawnsley, political columnist for the left-leaning newspaper the Guardian, once likened Brown to a distant planet — "a strange, small, blonde, passionate place on the fringes of the known political universe" and

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INTERNATIONAL

HK refugee camp conditions criticised

HONG KONG, Jan 10, (UPI): An international women's group today deplored "concentration camp-like conditions" in Hong Kong refugee camps and criticised the government for forcibly repatriating boat people before sending volunteers back to Vietnam.

The group, which visited five detention centres normally closed to outsiders, told reporters conditions were "inhumane" and urged the British colonial government to allow voluntary agencies to work in the camps run by prison personnel to improve the lives of the Vietnamese.

Those classified as economic migrants have no

The delegation, headed by former US Assistant Secretary of State Patricia Derian and Norwegian actress Liv Ullmann, denounced Hong Kong's refugee situation hours before a group of 123 boat people flew to Hanoi as part of a voluntary repatriation programme.

The latest group of returnees brought to nearly 1,000 the number of boat people who have voluntarily flown home since March rather than face forced repatriation if they are found to be economic migrants rather than genuine refugees.

Women in the camps are particularly vulnerable, Ullmann said.

They are scared of everyone — of the gangs, their fellow Vietnamese, and they are scared of the police," she said, adding that young women told members of the group they had been told by correctional officers they must provide sexual favours if they were to receive protection in the camps.

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12, 1990



Liv Ullman listening to Vietnamese women from Hong Kong's Sek Kong refugee centre as they tell of their treatment in the camp. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mandela to be released soon

Only a matter of time

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 10, (AP): Government-run radio said today the release of jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela was "only a matter of time," the strongest signal yet that his freedom is imminent.

The editorial by the South African Broadcasting Corp. also said Mandela, the country's best known black leader, can play a central role in opening black-white political dialogue.

"It has been clear for some months that it is only a matter of time before Mr. Mandela's release is announced," the broadcast said. "Moreover, by identifying himself with the ideals of peaceful development he has redefined his position."

In recent weeks, there has been almost daily speculation in the news media about Mandela's release. President FW De Klerk is widely expected to make an announcement on Mandela's status when he opens parliament on Feb. 1.

For most of Mandela's 27 years in prison, the white-led government has portrayed him and the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla movement he leads as terrorists and communists.

But recently it has described Mandela in favourable terms, in an apparent attempt to prepare the white community for his release.

"He would be in a position to make an important contribution to the creation of the conditions in which (black-white) talks could get under way," the editorial said today.

Meanwhile, The Citizen, a pro-government daily newspaper, said a planned visit within the next month by former US presidential candidate Jesse Jackson may affect the date of Mandela's release.

"The government does not want to give Mr. Jackson, an arch-critic of South Africa, any kudos if an announcement were made during his visit," The Citizen said, quoting unidentified government sources.

Liberian forces massacre 200

Africa Watch reports

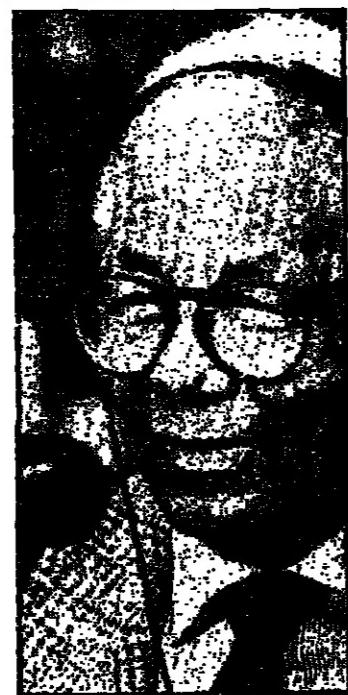
WASHINGTON, Jan 10, (AP): At least 200 Liberian civilians were massacred in northern Liberia and eyewitnesses fleeing the country attributed the killings to government forces, a human rights group reported yesterday.

The killings were the result of a Dec. 24 attempt to topple President Samuel K. Doe, according to Africa Watch. The organisation is a division of the private Human Rights Watch that monitors abuses around the world.

President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of neighbouring Ivory Coast reported that between 8,000 and 10,000 Liberians fled into his country in recent days, the group said.

"Africa Watch has also received reports of a shoot-to-kill policy instituted by President Doe, who has instructed troops fighting rebel forces to shoot on sight any persons engaged in suspicious activities," the organisation said.

Its statement also said three Liberian villages along the border with the Ivory Coast — Kahlplay, Boutuo and Lepulah — were destroyed in the fighting.



Sisulu: demand

The government has said it will grant Jackson a visa, but no dates for his trip have been announced.

Mandela, 71, has been jailed since 1962 and is serving a life sentence for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the government. He has refused to renounce the ANC's guerrilla campaign, saying he will do so only if the organisation is legalised and apartheid is dismantled.

Mandela has received a steady stream of visitors in recent weeks, ranging from cabinet ministers to prominent anti-apartheid leaders. He met Dec. 13 with De Klerk at the presidential office.

The West's biggest trade union, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) accused South Africa's state-run transport company yesterday of complicity in the killing of six black transport workers in a clash during a strike.

■ President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe today described current reforms of South Africa's racial policies as too few and too timid to be meaningful.

Alatas tries to revive talks

BANGKOK, Jan 10, (AP): Indonesia's foreign minister tried today to revive Cambodian peace talks, while sources in Phnom Penh acknowledged that bomb blasts had hit the capital and guerrillas had launched an attack near the second-largest city.

The minister, Ali Alatas, met in Bangkok with leaders of the three guerrilla groups, including Khmer Rouge representative Khiem Sampan.

He also met with Australian Deputy Foreign Secretary Michael Costello, who had just returned from Cambodia after promoting Canberra's plan for a UN administration there until free elections are held.

Alatas has organised several rounds of peace talks.

Reports of major Khmer Rouge attacks have intensified fears that without an agreement the communist guerrillas could seize power again. The Khmer Rouge governed Cambodia from 1975 until late 1978 when Vietnam invaded the country to oust the guerrillas. During their rule, the Khmer Rouge were blamed for killing hundreds of thousands of people.

The Khmer Rouge is the largest of three allied guerrilla groups fighting the Vietnamese-installed government.

Several plastic explosives went off in the streets of Phnom Penh last Friday night, and several more the next night, the eve of National Day, said Khiem Sampan, editor of the government-sponsored weekly newspaper Kampuchea.

He denied Khmer Rouge claims that grenades were used and that the blasts had forced Vietnamese-installed President Heng Samrin to flee to Vietnam.

He said the city was quiet and citizens were not concerned because the blasts in four or five different places had not caused injuries or damage.

"There weren't even any broken windows," said the editor, reached by telephone from Moscow.

He said fighting in the western provincial capital of Battambang, the second-largest city, was limited to villages 10 to 15 kilometres (six to nine miles) away. That city also was quiet Wednesday, he said.

The official government radio said late yesterday that at midnight Friday, 100 to 200 Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked through four suburbs of Battambang town in an attempt to blow up an iron bridge.

The official government radio said early today the guerrillas had held Battambang town for four hours and still controlled a position that had defended route 3, the major highway leading from the city across the country to Phnom Penh.

Fleeing China persecution

TOKYO, Jan 10, (AP): The man who hijacked a Chinese airliner to Japan last month claims he had been arrested for pro-democracy demonstrations in China and was fleeing political persecution, a lawyer said yesterday.

Kazuyoshi Iwaki told reporters that Zhang Zhenhai claims to have damaged unoccupied tanks and armoured cars during pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square last June.

He quoted the 35-year-old Zhang as saying, "there is no democracy and freedom in China. After the Tiananmen Square incident, many people were arrested or punished. Then I thought I would try to seek political asylum."

Ivory Coast said today it would seek international aid for an estimated 10,000 refugees who have fled fighting in neighbouring Liberia.

This would seem difficult given the current climate.

On US official told Reuters: "It (the plan) is temporarily up in the air, but I think the Colombians will agree to a co-operative effort. After all, they want to catch smugglers as badly as we do."

There has been increasing apprehension in Latin America over what critics view as US willingness to intervene militarily in other countries, particularly after the recent US invasion of Panama to oust General Manuel Noriega.

Bush last week said he would send Vice President Dan Quayle to Latin America to allay

concerns.

Defence officials told Reuters earlier that the plan called for navy aircraft to keep watch over Colombia from international waters, monitoring the flights of small aircraft entering and leaving remote areas of the country.

■ Colombia's foreign minister Julian Londono Paredes denied yesterday he was resigning after his sharp criticism of US plans to block cocaine traffic by stationing warships off this nation's coast.

infants, keeping them behind barbed wire, packed like sardines in concentration camp-like conditions," they said in a statement. "The delegation can only conclude that the policy is designed to punish people who are seeking freedom."

Women in the camps are particularly vulnerable, Ullmann said.

They are scared of everyone — of the gangs, their fellow Vietnamese, and they are scared of the police," she said, adding that young women told members of the group they had been told by correctional officers they must provide sexual favours if they were to receive protection in the camps.

"No justifiable excuse exists for imprisoning

national television and radio.

He defended his May 20 declaration of martial law in central Beijing for the first time in the history of the People's Republic as "timely, necessary and correct."

Li had acted after more than one million people filled Beijing streets to show support for student pro-democracy protesters.

"School classes were suspended, traffic disrupted, workers blocked on their way to work ... and the capital in a state of anarchy," Li said of

Beijing is politically stable now, claims Li

BEIJING, Jan 10, (AP): Premier Li Peng lifted Beijing's seven-month martial law today and said the army had saved China from "the abyss of misery" by crushing last spring's pro-democracy movement.

The largely symbolic action appeared intended to ease foreign criticism of China's crackdown on dissent and convince the World Bank and industrialised nations to restore badly needed loans.

Li did not mention foreign criticism in his 10-minute speech, which was taped today morning and broadcast at 7 pm (1100 GMT) on

the May situation. If he had not imposed martial law, he said, China "would have again fallen into the abyss of misery."

China now "is stable politically, economically and socially, production and lives are in good order ... and people live and work in peace and contentment," he said.

He thanked the army and police for "immortal historic feats in maintaining order and security in the capital and in defending the Communist Party leadership," adding: "For this, the people will never forget them."

Beijing streets were quiet immediately after the speech. Earlier today Chinese asked about the widely anticipated move said it would have little impact on their lives.

In Hong Kong, drivers along one major roadway honked their car horns raucously after hearing the news on local radio. The British colony is to revert to Chinese rule in 1997.

Japan, a major source of loans to China, said it welcomed the announcement as a sign that Beijing wanted to improve foreign relations.

Along with other Western nations, Japan suspended loans to China after the June crackdown on dissent. It has indicated recently it intends to resume loans, but Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu had been asking for China to show it was trying to improve relations with the West.

The official radio followed Li's speech with an editorial praising the move and a programme of martial music.

Li wore a dark grey Western-style suit and sat at a desk. His hands folded in front of him most of the time. His calm manner was in sharp contrast to his agitated, arm-waving delivery when he announced May 19 that the government would not permit the student-led protests to continue. He issued the martial law order the following day.

Even without martial law, Chinese security forces have wide authority to quell dissent. The government passed a law in November banning all but pro-government demonstrations. Conducting strikes and putting up political posters already are illegal.

The constitution forbids any action that might undermine the socialist system.

Chinese sources said they were told Li would make the announcement last night, and that martial law would be ended at midnight yesterday (1600 GMT). Chinese reporters also said they were alerted to receive the news last night.

But Li did not record his speech until this morning. Sources said he spoke in the Great Hall of the People, although all that could be seen on the television was the desk at which he sat and bookshelves behind him.

Several people interviewed on the street said lifting martial law would be a good move, and one said it could make it easier for students to resume protests.

But most said it would make no difference.

■ Arrests and executions have scared most Chinese dissidents into silence, but rock singer Hou Dejian has begun once more to rage against what he calls the "worst government possible."

■ South Korean President Roh Tae-woo today predicted reforms sweeping East Europe would soon reach communist North Korea and he called for a meeting to discuss free travel between the two Koreas.

Radicals and dissidents, a small but vocal minority, have staged violent demonstrations demanding troop withdrawals, claiming the presence of US soldiers hinders talks on reunifying the Korean peninsula.

■ South Korean President Roh Tae-woo today predicted reforms sweeping East Europe would soon reach communist North Korea and he called for a meeting to discuss free travel between the two Koreas.

French Minister for European Affairs Edith Cresson lashed out at Japan today as an "adversary" that "wants to conquer the world" in an interview published hours before an official visit by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

The officials quoted Kaifu as telling Martens that events in Eastern Europe were of global concern. Martens stressed the

need for free elections to be held by secret ballot to ensure the creation of multi-party political systems in reforming nations.

Martens, while welcoming Tokyo's pledges of aid for Poland and Hungary, also pointed to the continued need for financial assistance to Africa, where Belgium was a colonial power earlier this century.

The Brussels government was ready to co-operate with Japan in supplying aid to sub-Saharan African nations, he said.

Kaifu, who paid a courtesy call to King Baudouin before meeting Martens, flies to Paris tonight for talks with French President Francois Mitterrand.

The tour will also take him to London, Rome, the Vatican, Warsaw and Budapest before he returns home on Jan. 18.

Kaifu offered up to \$1.75 billion in financial aid as well as new trade and investment guarantees to Poland and Hungary yesterday.

Japanese news reports have said Japan's total aid package to the two reform-oriented East European countries could be worth \$1.95 billion.

French Minister for European Affairs Edith Cresson lashed out at Japan today as an "adversary" that "wants to conquer the world" in an interview published hours before an official visit by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

The plan, reported to involve six unarmed vessels worth about \$1 billion, threatened to worsen relations between France and China already tense since the crackdown by troops on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing last June.

China, which does not recognise non-communist Taiwan, protested last week to Foreign Minister Roland Dumas through its ambassador to France, saying the visit would be a direct interference in China's internal affairs. China had already complained about the visit in December.

France backed down after recognising that "the affair was more delicate than had been initially thought," the source said.

Bid to calm UK, China uproar

BEIJING, Jan 10, (AP): Hong Kong Governor Sir David Wilson arrived today for talks aimed at calming diplomatic storms between China and Britain and reviving flagging confidence in the future of Hong Kong.

Wilson, making his first trip to Britain since the bloody suppression of the pro-democracy movement here last June, will be meeting a Chinese leadership that has been increasingly hard-line in its opposition to political reform in the British colony.

During his three-day stay, we will meet with Foreign Minister Zhou Nan; Ji Pengfei, head of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office in the state council; and Premier Li Peng.

When he arrived, Wilson said he hoped the visit would provide an opportunity to explain the views of Hong Kong people and "try to re-establish a dialogue which is so important for dealing with the various issues we have facing us."

He said he hoped his meeting Friday with Premier Li would give him a chance to "explain to him what is going on in Hong Kong," including political developments.

The visit will be a last chance for Britain to express its views before the final meeting in Canton next week of the basic law drafting committee, a body drawing up the laws that will govern Hong Kong after it reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

Relations between China and Britain have plummeted since the crushing of the Tiananmen protesters last June.

China has criticised Britain for permitting pro-democracy activities in the colony.

The Chinese government also accused Britain on Dec. 30 of a "gross violation" of past agreements in its decision to give 50,000 Hong Kong families the right to abide in Britain before 1997.

The British nationality package was aimed at providing guarantees for the futures of Hong Kong's most talented people, whose confidence in life under communist rule was badly shaken by Beijing's violent suppression of dissent last spring.

Credibility in question

Witnesses in Noriega trial

WASHINGTON, Jan 10, (AP): Prosecutors trying the cocaine-trafficking case against Manuel Antonio Noriega will likely face a barrage of defence attacks on the credibility of government witnesses who once smuggled drugs.

A key prosecution witness against the deposed Panamanian ruler is expected to be Floyd Carlton Caceres, who is serving a nine-year sentence for drug trafficking.

The background of Carlton and other witnesses likely to testify in Noriega's Miami trial illustrates the problem prosecutors will encounter when they ask jurors to accept the word of convicted criminals.

But legal experts say the problem is common to such cases, where, in the absence of wiretaps or testimony by undercover agents, the only sources of information about a defendant are unsavoury people who were part of a drug operation.

President George Bush and Attorney General Dick Thornburgh have said the case against Noriega is strong, indicating a belief among federal prosecutors that their witnesses' testimony will hold up in court.

Defence lawyers probably will argue that the jury shouldn't believe testimony from disreputable people.

"The answer the government is going to give is 'who do you expect him to associate with?'" said a former federal prosecutor who specialized in drug cases. "It's not an insurmountable problem; in fact, it's a typical problem," said the former prosecutor, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "A major issue will be the ability of the government to corroborate the evidence from each of the witnesses."

Carlton has testified before congress that he arranged for the Medellin drug cartel of Colombia to pay Noriega \$200,000 for each plane load of cocaine that was protected as it was shipped through Panama to the United States.

Others who may testify are convicted money-launderer Ramon Milian Rodriguez and convicted smuggler Steven M. Kalish. Both have testified about the protection Noriega allegedly gave Colombian drug lords, including armoured-car transport of cash and the use of military airfields.

In addition, prosecutors conceivably could call as witnesses any of the five arrested Noriega co-defendants who might decide to plead guilty and, in return for a reduced sentence, testify against Noriega.

An attorney for one of those co-defendants, Luis Del Cid, indicated on Monday that his client was considering becoming a government witness.

"There was a very preliminary exchange of amenities where the possibility of some settlement was discussed," defence attorney Samuel Bursztyn said of discussions with federal prosecutors.

"We're desirous of exploring all options, but no offers have been made on either side and there are no deals," he said.



Panama toll

The US Defence Department said it estimated that 220 Panamanian civilians were killed in the US invasion last month, a figure far below earlier unofficial estimates of thousands.

The Pentagon said last week that 324 members of the Panamanian Defence Forces (PDF) were killed in the invasion and 124 wounded. Twenty-three US troops died, 323 were wounded and three US civilians were killed in the invasion. Pictures showed a US soldier hugging fallen comrades during a memorial service in Panama City. (Reuters wirephoto)

The indictment describes Del Cid, who surrendered last month to invading US forces, as an emissary and a courier of the Medellin drug cartel.

The indictment says Del Cid arranged the payment of money from the Medellin cartel to Noriega.

Del Cid presumably could corroborate Carlton's past testimony about one alleged payment of protection money that is described in the indictment.

The indictment says that, at Noriega's direction, Del Cid delivered \$200,000 to Del Cid at the headquarters of the Panamanian defence forces, which were led by Noriega.

Noriega was very helpful to the US drug enforcement administration in Central America, a former DEA chief says.

■ Peru has granted diplomatic asylum to 12 Panamanians being sheltered in the home of its ambassador, and hundreds of people sacked the headquarters of Noriega.

■ Panama's new UN ambassador Eduardo Vallarino presented his credentials to the UN secretary-general in a ceremony aimed at putting to rest conflicting claims over the envoy's post.

REQUIRED TENDER COORDINATOR

For a leading company in the field of petroleum equipment. Should have the following:

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We offer challenging job with an attractive benefits package.
Qualified candidates to send resume with a recent photograph to:

Personnel Dept.
Ref. TCO
P.O. Box 4098 Safat, 13041, Kuwait

UN calls for global anti-drug war

VIENNA, Jan 10, (AP): The international drug trade threatens the stability of entire nations, and the battle against violent international cartels can only be won efficiently waged on a global scale, according to a UN report released today.

Trafficants now seek not just money but political control as well, one official said.

"Despite unprecedented counteraction taken by the world community, an interlocking network of criminal drug-trafficking organisations, heavily financed and armed, has become even bolder and more ruthless," the 32-page survey said.

In its review of 1989, the Vienna-based International Narcotics Control Board

warned that "the danger of undermining and paralysing political institutions and economies of some countries has never been greater."

"The traffickers' declaration of war against a single country endangers the security and integrity of all countries and constitutes war against the whole international community," the board said.

To overcome the assault, "the response of the international community must be concerted, swift, more forceful, more comprehensive, (and) more innovative."

The board's 13 members, elected by the UN Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc), do not represent their govern-

ments. The board also co-operates with other international agencies concerned with drug control.

"For the criminal trafficking organisations, linked ... often with terrorist insurgents, to prevail in the struggle in any one country would imperil all countries," the report says. "The war to defeat them must be waged globally."

"A situation as we see it at present has never existed before," INCB secretary Abdel Aziz Bahi said in an interview.

There have always been drug traffickers, but now they not only want money, "they want to seize power in the state," he said.

Since 1988, illicit production of narcotic drugs has increased and involved more countries, the INCB report said, citing as an "ominous development" the spread of opium poppy cultivation to Guatemala and Colombia.

In its survey, the board said it considers "a milestone" the conclusion in December 1988 of the convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

As of Nov 1, 1989, 77 nations and the European Economic community were signatories to the convention, the board said, urging all other states to accede to it.

Pan Am probers confer

LOCKERIE, Jan 10, (AP): Senior investigators, police and prosecutors from the United States, Britain, West Germany, Sweden and Malta met in Lockerbie today to assess progress in their world-wide hunt for the bombers of Pan Am Flight 103.

Chief Constable George Esson of Scotland's Dumfries and Galloway Police Force said the one-day conference at the Lockerbie House Hotel is the fifth in a series attended by personnel from the five countries.

No public statement was expected after the meeting, which was held behind closed doors. Security was tight.

The 30 participants, who included representatives of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice, were dressed in plain clothes and were not identified.

The four previous conferences were held in Lockerbie, Washington, London, and Meckenheim in West Germany.

A terrorist bomb hidden in the luggage hold of the Pan Am Boeing 747 blasted the plane apart over the southern Scottish town of Lockerbie on Dec 21, 1988.

All 259 people aboard the plane, which was flying from London's Heathrow airport to New York, and 11 people on the ground were killed. Flight 103 originated at Frankfurt, West Germany, changing planes at Heathrow.

Investigators hunting the bombers have confirmed that one focus of their attention is the Syrian-based popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command headed by Ahmed Jibril.

Jibril has denied involvement but acknowledged his group has used similar devices to the plastic explosives hidden in a radio-cassette player which investigators say blew up flight 103.

Esson has said the suitcase containing the radio-cassette bomb was either checked in at Frankfurt airport, or passed through Frankfurt from a feeder flight. West German authorities say there is not enough evidence to pinpoint where the bomb originated.

See also Page 11

Lynch mobs are out

Romanians seek revenge against Ceausescu officials

BUCHAREST, Jan 10, (UPI): Mobs hungry for revenge after 25 years of repressive rule under dictator Nicolae Ceausescu are lynching or shooting officials connected to his ousted regime, a Romanian newspaper said.

The report yesterday came a day after the start of military trials of members of Ceausescu's secret police, accused of killing hundreds and perhaps thousands of people during last month's pro-democracy revolution.

The Bucharest newspaper Adevarul said vigilante groups are taking justice into their own hands in some areas of the country, lynching or

shooting former provincial and security officials and terrorising members of their families.

"A lot of executions are taking place without trials," the newspaper said.

Adevarul said the attacks were "absolutely contrary to the democratic climate established in our country."

"Any other act of judgement (other than the government's) is against the law and results only in causing panic in society," the newspaper said.

Zoe had long line of lovers

BUCHAREST, Jan 10, (Reuter): The high-living daughter of Romania's executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu had a long line of lovers, was a seasoned traveller and was almost permanently drunk, a Bucharest newspaper said today.

State-run television showed

excerpts of the trial of a major in the Securitate, or secret police,

charged with attempted murder in the wounding of a soldier. The broadcast said the major was convicted and sentenced to nine years in prison.

A secret military tribunal con-

victed and executed Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, Dec 25 for

genocide, corruption and anti-

state offences. The government has since abolished the death

punishment.

It remains unclear how many

people are facing trial for crimes

linked to the Ceausescu govern-

ment. It also is unknown how

many Securitate members remain at large.

Western diplomats said the

remaining Ceausescu loyalists

are believed to pose little threat

to the new government except

possibly for individual acts of

terrorism.

Fighting ceased almost

immediately after the govern-

ment announced that Ceausescu

had been executed. Western

sources estimate about 7,000

people were killed since the first

outbreak of violence Dec 16 in the

Western city of Timisoara.

Romania's interim govern-

ment appealed for calm in a

nationally broadcast statement,

urging Romanians to avoid acts

of immediate resignation.

Executed

Romania's new leadership

said yesterday a maximum of

10,000 people were killed in the

December revolution and claimed

50,000 people were executed — about 40 a week —

during the rule of Ceausescu.

Silvia Brucan, a senior mem-

ber of the executive of the ruling

National Salvation Front (NSF),

said: "The total number of dead during the revolution in

Romania is no more than

10,000." Romanian television

reported.

He declared January 12 a

national day of mourning.

Nicu Ceausescu, the youngest

son of Ceausescu, personally

ordered army and police units to

shoot on revolutionaries last

month.

The daily Adevarul (truth)

said yesterday the order to shoot

without warning was given Dec

17 in Sibiu County, southern

Transylvania, where Nicu, 39,

was party secretary.

Nicu apparently referred to

the Rev Laszlo Toekes, an ethnic

Hungarian Protestant cler-

gyman whom authorities tried to

evict from his church in the

Western city of Timisoara, where he

hid with his pregnant wife after

masked assassins entered his

home in early November.

Dissident

A senior Romanian leader has

rejected warnings from promi-

nent dissident Doina Cornea that

the revolution is in peril, saying

she was "irresponsible and

politically naive."

Silvia Brucan of the ruling

NSF invited Reuters to the

ARAB TIMES GRAND



Competition No. 75

PRIZES

First Full House: KD 100

Second Full House: KD 60

Third Full House: KD 40

Top Line: KD 25

Four Corners: KD 25

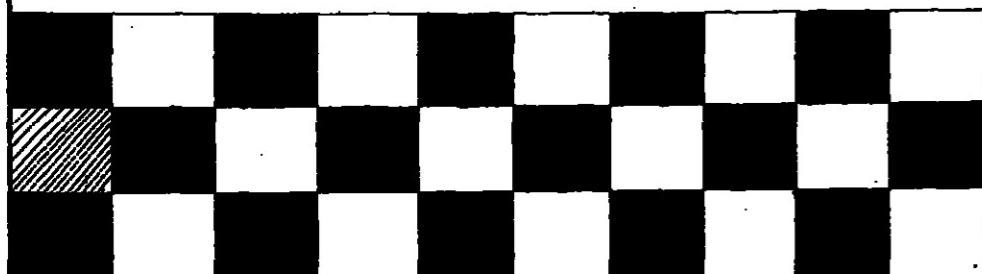
Hurry! make sure you get your Arab Times

HOW TO PLAY

- Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
 - Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
 - Fill in your name and address in the
- appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.
- Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
 - Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
 - Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

FREE BINGO

No. 75 ENTRY

ANSWER THIS CLUE IN THE SHADED SQUARE:
THIS DECADE

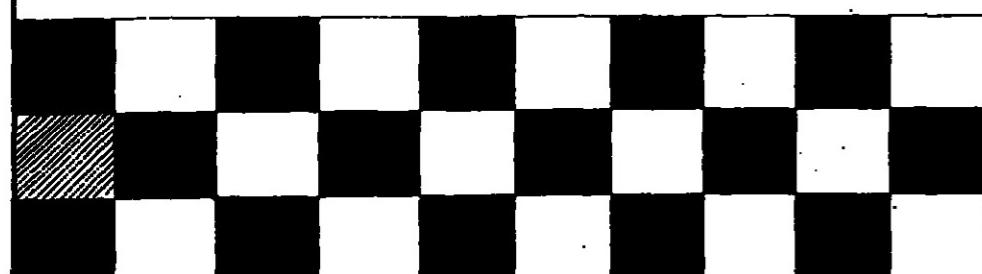
NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss)

ADDRESS

IS YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE?

FREE BINGO

No. 75 COPY



How to claim

RULES

- There is no entry fee, but all entries must be on separate ARAB TIMES forms and only entries from one competitor may be enclosed in the same envelope.
- The number of each day's list will be read from left to right with the left hand number being the first of the day. The order then continues to the right. Claimants with one number will have preference over claimants with two or more numbers.
- All the claimants' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day claims are made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the claimant will be the criterion for awarding the prizes according to the priority of the number published on that day from left to the right.
- If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
- The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to enter.
- No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or altered or mutilated entries although the date stamped on envelopes will be accepted so long as it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without names, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
- No numbers at any time will be told over the telephone.
- Claims must be on the same day's numbers. Claims with previous day's numbers will not be entertained.

EVERYDAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

Please make a note of the last number you checked off, i.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo,
Arab Times,
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

Gulf ministers discuss national labour force

ABUDHABI, Jan 10 (AP): Labour ministers of the seven Gulf Arab countries started a 3-day meeting yesterday to discuss aspects of developing a national workforce that can gradually take over from the millions of foreign hands they employ.

In the six countries that make up the Gulf Co-operation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates — some six million foreigners are employed to help with the massive, oil-fuelled economic and social development plans that began with the oil boom of the 1970s.

They are mainly from Southeast Asia

and other Arab countries, and from several Western countries, especially Britain which had traditional close ties with the region.

Iraq has a developed labour force but resorted to foreigners, including more than one million Egyptians, when its men were at the front during the 1980-1988 war with Iran.

Iraq is grouped with the GCC states in what is called the Arab Gulf Council of ministers of labour and social affairs, whose 10th annual session is now con-

"In spite of the labour and social achievements fulfilled, there are still a lot

of challenges and obstacles facing our joint efforts, but we are optimistic about the future," said Khalafan Al Roumi, the UAE minister of labour and social affairs in his opening speech.

Roumi, elected chairman of the current session, said recent developments would enhance life in the region. He listed the birth of several groupings within the 22-member Arab League, the return of Egypt after a 10-year hiatus because of its 1979 peace treaty with Israel and the Iraq-Iran ceasefire.

The agenda has several aspects of co-operation like classification of jobs, labour and social guidance programmes, training

programmes, vocational safety and its role in protecting human resources and creating awareness among citizens of the importance of their role in development.

Across the years, the council already sanctioned a rule that member states should start by hiring nationals, then other Arabs and finally non-Arab foreigners. But these rules are not enforced by law.

"The gap between the local and foreign workforce in the GCC states will take a long time to be closed," said Iskandar Rashad, an adviser to the Institute for Administrative Development at Abu Dhabi, speaking for the sparsely-populated countries south of Iraq.

Muslim food show in Singapore

SINGAPORE, Jan 10 (Kun): Kuwait will participate in the world's first international Muslim food and technology exhibition to be held here in August, a spokesman for the organisers said today.

The spokesman told Kun: booths at the four-day exhibition have been reserved for exhibitions from Kuwait.

To be held together with an international halal food conference, the exhibition is expected to draw as many as 250 international exhibitors and 5,000 trade visitors.

Organised by the Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce, the \$250,000 project, has attracted attention and support from as far afield as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and all the Muslim countries in the region.

Haji Abdul Kadir Haji Elid Ali, vice-president of the chamber, said the exhibition, dubbed Imflex '91, will raise awareness of the business potential available in halal food, the only kind of food Muslims can consume.

He pointed out there are about 1.8 billion Muslims around the world. They consumed an estimated \$60 billion worth of Muslim food last year.

Singapore's exports of halal food to the Middle East increased by 30 per cent in 1988 to \$124 million and are expected to keep rising.

Food exports to the Middle East include vegetable oil, coffee and tea, chocolates and confectionery and frozen seafood.

Ridzwan Dzaif, director-general of the Trade Development Board which first mooted the idea, said local businesses with the technology and know-how to manufacture halal food can look for joint-venture partners or sell their contract-manufacturing ability at the exhibition.

Education panel

A PANEL on reformation of primary education in Kuwait is to be held early next week in the presence of national educationists and experts. Education Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khodary announced.

He said the four-day panel which is opening tomorrow is mainly aimed at assessing the primary education stage with the objective of reaching broad links and formulas that can best suit the local society and respond to the country's development needs.



Haroon visits

Undersecretary of the Higher Education Ministry, Dr Meesa Al Haroon visited the Technical Studies College, the Communication and Aviation and Electricity and Water Centres yesterday. The under-secretary also visited all sections enclosed in addition to laboratories and workshops.

Dr Haroon met with the dean of the Technical

Studies College, Dr Sulaiman Shams Al Deen who escorted him in a tour inside the computer and civil engineering laboratories. He also met with the director of the Communications and Aviation Centre, Jasem Al Zanki. During the visit Haroon was escorted by the director of the Public Relations Office at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Khaled Sulaiman Al Erafan.

Investors prefer fixed deposits

Stock market fails to attract new funds

MOST of the dealers involved in the stock market after 1983 incurred exorbitant losses as the then purchase price was far higher than current levels. Sjaker Al Othman, deputy director-general for local investments affairs at Kuwait Securities Group said.

In an interview with a local daily, the official clarified that since 1983, the market had witnessed significant and continued retreat. He commented that this scenario has resulted in local investors refraining from investing in the local market.

Othman disclosed that the majority of investors during the last few years preferred to deposit their funds in banks in the shape of fixed deposits or investing abroad and other investors placing their confidence in the real estate market.

He added that the council has agreed to the appointment of Kuwaiti females in primary schools where presently, the teaching staff is exclusively male. The new appointees will undergo intensive training before taking up their job functions as secretaries, librarians, store keepers and sociologists, the official said.

Meanwhile, the official said that the forward sale speculation

system proved ideal for reactivating of the stock market as speculation on price differences was substantial and consequently profit margins became attractive.

Additionally, the forward sale system plays a significant role in attracting new investors to the market which eventually led to inflow of new funds and an improvement in share prices.

Speaking of investment funds, the official said that although these vehicles constitute a basic element that could help create a new mechanism for trading in the bourse, he expressed some doubts on its potential for increasing prices in the bourse.

He pointed out that the proposed funds will be based on collecting of funds, but the market is not suffering from a cash shortage. Basically, he said, investors are seeking opportunities to profitably invest their funds.

Othman pointed out that cash inflow constitutes a problem in itself in the absence of investment funds and concluded that investment funds will not solve the problems facing the bourse.

Meanwhile, other dealers disclosed that though the market has never suffered from any cash problem, the current signs

indicate that the bourses is still unable to attract investors.

Furthermore, these dealers said that the market had lost a choice of its active dealers during the last few years. They further disclosed an important fact when they announced that about 94 per cent of deals in the market was conducted by the government companies and the individual activities were not exceeding 6 per cent of the dealing volume.

However, observers were in agreement that profits made by the companies is a major reason for relevant shares prices hike. A great number of the local companies had adjusted their positions and are currently distributing dividends with the banking sector distributing considerable dividends per annum. They said in Toyo Bourse for example the price of each share should equal at least 60 folds of the dividend to be distributed for each share while in Kuwait that value of the share was equalling 12 to 13 folds of the dividend for each share.

The observers said that speculative activities play the major role towards pushing forward share prices and called for lifting off the restrictions imposed on the speculations.

Officers honoured

General Director of the General Traffic Department Brigadier Abdul Hameed Haji Abdur Rehman yesterday honoured a number of police officers for their high performance while on duty. The ceremony held at the Higher Traffic Council hall was attended



by a number of traffic department directors. Haji Abdur Rehman's speech on the occasion praised the officers efforts and high sense of duty. The general director distributed certificates and symbolic gifts among the officers.

THE Telecommunication Tower project's layout is in need of incorporating amendments which will require additional financial costs to be added to the project's budget. Barrak Al Turkey, chief engineer of the constructional projects engineering at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Works said.

Without elaborating on the details of the cost of the proposed amendments, the official said the value of the tower of the telecommunication building amounted to KD25 million with the involvement of 650 engineers and workers alongwith 40 sub-contractors.

The survey stressed the need to tighten censorship on recorded material offered by video-shops, whereby strict measures would be taken against those who dealt with material that cast harmful effects on the younger generation.

The survey recommended the role of schools in increasing students awareness so that children would develop self-appreciation of what they could label constructive or educative.

The major portion of the building has been accomplished, including the main part of the tower — estimated at 220 metres. Another six floors and a hole will be built to accommodate the telecommunication equipment.

The official expressed his satisfaction of the progress of the work which he said was according to the relevant programmes. All the works in the project will be accomplished during the first half of 1991, Turkey said.

Replying to a question, the official said that the ministry is encouraging local contractors to participate in the implementation process of the minister's projects, clarifying that some tenders were opened only for local contractors.

Additional cost for tele-tower

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES**Thought for today**

I AM always ready to learn, but do not always like to be taught — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).

Leaders seek Angolan peace**Goal slips further**

LAUNDA, (Reuter): African leaders are redoubling their efforts to bring peace to war-weary Angola, but each time they try to move forward their goal seems to slip further out of reach.

The latest bid to find an "African solution" to one of the continent's longest and bloodiest conflicts was to begin yesterday with a summit of eight African heads of state in the Angolan capital.

But only 36 hours before the start, the meeting was vetoed by Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko who let it be known he was too busy to attend amid fresh signs of disagreements with Angola's Marxist authorities.

No new date has been fixed for the summit, which had already been postponed several times.

Tactic

It would not be the first time Mobutu has used the tactic of the "empty chair," perfected by the late French leader Charles de Gaulle, to remind others not to take him for granted.

Despite Mobutu's denials, Zaire is thought to be the main channel for US aid worth an estimated \$50 million each year to National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) rebels.

This alone makes him one of the key brokers in the efforts to end the 15-year-old war, a role formalised in his mediation between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

The Zairean president, using a mixture of guile and bluff, began the peace negotiations with a spectacular coup last June when he persuaded the two men to meet and shake hands in his palace of Gbadolite in front of a host of African leaders.

But the verbal agreement collapsed within weeks and Savimbi angrily disowned the terms he was supposed to have accepted at Gbadolite.

Fighting

Since then fighting in southern Angola has intensified and six months of diplomatic manoeuvring seems only to have driven the two sides further apart.

They now seem to be wary not only of each other but also of Mobutu.

Dos Santos spoke for the first time in a Portuguese television interview last weekend of an "impasse" in the talks, a word previously avoided by the Angolans.

For his part, Savimbi described a new peace formula offered by Dos Santos on Dec 30 as a step backwards.

The eight heads of state met last August and September without Savimbi, lining up behind the official Angolan version of what was agreed in Gbadolite.

The most controversial elements of this package were that Savimbi should withdraw from politics for an unspecified period and integrate his pro-Western guerrillas into the government, political and military system.

In recent weeks Dos Santos has dropped the demand that Savimbi should withdraw, saying there are "other possibilities" for him.

Elections

But he has flatly ruled out Unita's demand for free elections and a multi-party system.

There has been further friction between Angola and Zaire over ceasefire proposals by Mobutu believed to involve the stationing in Angola of troops from other African countries.

These proposals have been accepted by Unita but rejected by the Angolans as in breach of their sovereignty.

A call by Dos Santos in his television interview for the meeting to clarify and redefine his role as mediator may have made Mobutu decide to pull out of the Luanda summit.

The so-called group of eight consists of Angola, Zaire, Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The African presidents, all of them with one-party states of their own to protect, are expected to stand behind Dos Santos in opposing Unita's demand for a multi-party system as "un-African."

Slogans

But Savimbi's slogan of free elections is topical, coming soon after the success of neighbouring Namibia's election under UN supervision.

It also coincides with the shock waves running through Africa from events in Eastern Europe where one-party rule has largely been discredited as a political system.

Dos Santos says his country, potentially one of the richest in Africa but now one of the poorest, is too backward to hold multi-party elections "at this historical stage."

Instead he has promised a "democratic opening" to other social forces outside the ruling party and said that independent candidates could stand in elections.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1569 — First lottery in England is drawn in St Paul's Cathedral under Queen Elizabeth I's patronage.
- 1681 — Brandenburger and France sign defence alliance.
- 1753 — Spain's King Ferdinand VI signs concordat with Pope Benedict XIV.
- 1814 — Joachim Murat, king of Naples, deserts Napoleon Bonaparte and joins allies.
- 1887 — Otto Von Bismarck advocates larger German Army.
- 1919 — Romania annexes Transylvania.
- 1942 — Japanese take Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, in World War II.
- 1943 — Britain and United States relinquish extraterritorial rights in China.
- 1945 — Truce is declared in Greek civil war.
- 1962 — Avalanche buries village in the Andes in Peru, and 3,000 people are reported killed.
- 1970 — In Nigeria, 32-month-old secessionist Biafran regime collapses under onslaughts by Nigerian control government.
- 1972 — New state of Bangladesh is recognized by East Germany.
- 1975 — Soviets launch manned spaceship to rendezvous with space laboratory sent into orbit around the earth.
- 1976 — President Rodriguez Lari of Ecuador is ousted in a coup.
- 1988 — Study shows increase of \$930 million in military expenditures throughout world in 1987.
- 1989 — More Cuban troops leave Angola under a US-brokered agreement between Cuba, South Africa and Angola.



Several thousand Bulgarians demonstrate in Kurdzhali southern Bulgaria on Friday to protest the decision last month by the Communist leadership to restore civil rights to the country's 1.5 million ethnic Turks (Reuter wirephoto)

Bulgarian opposition leaders angry**Communists encourage protests**

SOFIA, (AP): Bulgarian opposition leaders and Western diplomats say communist hard-liners are encouraging Slav protests against the Turkish minority, taking advantage of an old ethnic conflict to disrupt democratic reforms.

"It's an organized process from lower and middle levels" of the Communist Party, "and even some people at the top," Petko Simeonov, a leader of the opposition club for glasnost and democracy, asserted.

"Local party leaders fear they're going to lose their privileges. They fear they are going to lose their skin," said Konstantin Trenchev, a 35-year-old leader of the Union of Democratic Forces, an umbrella opposition group.

"As far as we can tell, local party officials, who have not yet been touched by perestroika," are organizing the protests, said a Western diplomat in Sofia speaking on condition of anonymity.

Thousands of nationalists in the past week have staged strikes and demonstrations in at least eight cities across Bulgaria to protest a Dec 29 decision by central authorities to restore cultural and religious rights to the country's estimated 1.2 million Muslims, mostly ethnic Turks.

The independent trade union Podkrepa in southern Haskovo and Kardzhali, where some of the most vehement ethnic protests occurred last week, said local officials commandeered buses and cars, megaphones and flags for the protests.

For years ethnic Turks and Muslims were subjected to a harsh assimilation policy under former Communist Party leader Todor Zhivkov that even forbade the use of non-Bulgarian names.

Petar Mladenov, who replaced Zhivkov on Nov 10, has promised to steer Bulgaria out of its Stalinist past and into a democratic future.

The outburst of anti-Turk sentiment is embarrassing Mladenov's government and will likely complicate upcoming round-table talks with the democratic opposition on reform and free elections promised by many.

Simeonov said the protests "could push the country in a neo-fascist and nationalist direction" and delay the talks.

The deep mistrust between nationalists among the country's Slav majority and ethnic Turks has been fanned since the mid-1980s by Zhivkov's assimilation policy and anti-Turkish propaganda, opposition leaders say.

But the current conflict sprang at least in part from a serious rift between hard-line communists and reformist leaders in Sofia.

Trenchev said he doubts the hard-liners can retain lasting influence, given the radical changes sweeping through Eastern Europe.

"They cannot exist alone in the world, isolated between East and West," he said.

But a fascinating account of Zhivkov's ouster indicates that the former leader, who had been in power for 34 years, did not go willingly, and probably still enjoys the support of some communists.

According to Venelin Raichev, Bulgarian journalist who wrote the story for the Soviet weekly Moscow News, Zhivkov had resisted all calls for reform in Bulgaria and had decided to crush opposition inside and outside the party.

Despite the moratorium, a few dozen anti-Turk demonstrators gathered again Tuesday around the national assembly, or parliament, in Sofia, and some of their remarks were tinged with racial tones.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

By Henry Brandon

US administration worried**Asian-Pacific relations deteriorate**

THE Bush administration is seriously troubled by the deterioration of its relations with several countries in the Asian-Pacific region. It has become all the more aware of it as its relations with the Soviet Union and Western Europe have greatly improved.

The contrast between the rapidly growing economic co-operation within the European Economic Community and the lack of such co-operation in the Asian region is so glaring that the administration early last year tried to do something about it.

It attaches, therefore, special significance to the process of forming a structure for economic co-operation in the area which began last spring when a dozen countries met in Canberra, Australia, to set it in motion. The process has come to be called the APEC process and further discussions among high officials are scheduled for this month in Washington with a ministerial meeting to follow in Singapore and another one in 1991 in South Korea.

Although APEC has so far aroused little world attention, the United States, according to a high State Department official, considers it the most significant development in Washington's Asian policy. "In ten years' time," he suggested, "historians will share this view. Europe in the Economic European Community has a well advanced structure for economic co-operation and, consequently, has gained a great deal of inner economic strength."

The lack of such a structure in the Asian-Pacific region, he concluded, is proving to be a serious handicap and needs to be dealt with.

The American priorities in the Asian region are, first, strengthening the US-Japanese partnership which has badly deteriorated, secondly, re-establish a more normal relationship with the Chinese government and, thirdly, resolve the conflict over Cambodia. The two secret trips to China by two of President Bush's top foreign policy advisers is proof that the President is most anxious to maintain contact with Beijing, the conservative backlash in China notwithstanding, in order to preserve some influence with China's leaders and to impress on them that they should resume their liberal reform programme. The chances of his exercising such an influence at present are minimal however because there is a certain amount of evidence that the Chinese leadership is deeply impressed by what has happened to the communist regimes in Eastern Europe. It has made them more anxious to make sure that similar inner upheavals do not undermine the future of their own government. Under these circumstances they are unlikely to listen to American political advice. Deng Xiaoping, who reappeared in public last September after an absence of three months, did not show himself in the company of North Korea's Kim Il Sung, or a East European leader or a Third World leader, but rather ostentatiously, with a Chinese-American, professor Lee of Harvard University, a Nobel prize winner.

The statements he made to the professor were an indication that he wanted to continue his reform programme and that he wanted to sustain the old relationship with the US and with the West, but he does not seem to have the policy control he used to have.

American officials confess that they find it, as yet, too difficult to determine whether the Chinese government will soon be in a position to adopt a more reformist attitude. President Bush has indicated to Beijing that he is ready to resume closer relations with China but that to dance to a tango (even though this may not be exactly a Chinese habit) two partners are needed. Only in a minor way, so far, has the Chinese government shown an inclination to co-operate. It cancelled the intermediate-range missile sales to Middle Eastern countries after the Bush administration objected to the deal and it also revived the Fulbright programme for American students to study in China. However minor these concessions, they are seen here as an indication of a desire to improve relations with the US.

Not so long ago the main reason the US sought good relations with China were strategic, to counterbalance Soviet power in the region. That reason has now been overtaken by history. Today the US is much more concerned with the possibility that turmoil in China could have been an incendiary effect and cause trouble in the entire Asian region. Furthermore, sooner rather than later, China will play an important economic role in the region. High officials emphasise that Bush's attitude simply reflects the belief that it is in the US interest to maintain a constructive relationship with China.

What has surprised the Bush administration is the extent to which the Taiwan government, too, is seeking to maintain good relations with the Chinese mainland. There are some Taiwanese politicians who advocate Taiwan's independence, but that is not the official policy of the Taiwan government.

American officials report that Taiwanese investments, undertaken via Hong Kong, on the mainland of China have not only been maintained but are increasing. It is quite obvious that the government does not want to interrupt those investments, but wants to continue them. Its policy toward China is similar to that of the US, it is the so-called "One China" policy and it has been that for some ten years. And no change should be expected.

However it is the tense relationship with Japan that is most worrying to Washington. The differences over economic and commercial policy are such that they are unlikely to improve soon unless Japan makes good on its promise to encourage American imports by reducing existing trade barriers.

Admittedly, the situation has improved in the last year especially but not enough.

Gorbachev, too, is anxious to improve relations with Japan. One reason is Soviet interest in Japanese investments, another is to sign a peace treaty to establish political stability in the Asian-Pacific

region. The reason no peace treaty has yet been concluded is because various territorial disputes have remained unresolved. The Soviet Union still occupies the so-called Northern Territories, the islands of the Habomais, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu. This happened not as a result of a lawful disposition, in accordance with international law, but it was a unilateral decision through the use of military power.

Japan apparently has no intention of signing a peace treaty with the Soviet Union as long as the occupation of these four islands continues. For Gorbachev to make such a concession is not easy. After having let go of the Soviet East European empire, he probably finds it difficult politically to give up the kind of strategic territory these islands represent to the Soviets. To make it easier for himself, American officials believe, he is pressuring the United States to reduce its naval bases, and naval presence generally, in the Pacific. Such a withdrawal, they suggest, would make it easier for him to say that he does not need those islands any more since their main strategic significance is to serve as a protection against American naval power. Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze is scheduled to visit the United States in March and the island issue is expected to be high on the agenda.

Soviet eagerness to improve relations in the Pacific area also extends to South Korea, whose outstanding industrial development has impressed the experts in Moscow. They are amazed how fast South Korea developed from a Third World country into an advanced industrial one. Russians themselves refer to their own state as being, economically, a developing one, and they are eager to learn how to create the industrial know-how, the skilled labour and the capital. South Korea today exports more than the big Soviet Union. Moscow, as a preliminary step has opened an office dealing with trade in Seoul, not yet an embassy, but diplomatic relations, irrespective of Soviet relations with North Korea, may well follow within a year or so.

Talking about diplomatic relations, the Vietnamese have been trying to convince the US that the time has come to establish diplomatic relations, but the US has been telling them that in order to reach an agreement on normalising relations the Vietnamese would first have to withdraw from Cambodia. There are various assertions that this has already happened or is in the process of happening, but it is still not clear whether any conditions are attached to it. There is little trust here in what the Vietnamese say.

It is not surprising, in view of the many unresolved issues, problems and uncertainties that the US looks at the Asian-Pacific region with a great deal of concern and with a certain determination to shift American attention much more to the Far East than it has in the past.

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12, 1989

Letters to the editor**Unjust criticism**

SIR: After reading Ebrahim Alhamar's letter "Humiliating remarks" (AT, Jan 2) in response to E Haider's letter, it was clear he vented his criticism unjustly on E Haider, whose letter was clearly referring to marriages between English and Kuwaiti persons respectively and her feelings about leaving family, friends, and expert medical care.

And rightly so. Our health service which is also free has one of the best reputations in the world. Our British doctors and nurses are impeccable. Still with problems, mistakes, wrong diagnosis, etc which they and every other country face, including Kuwait, they are still far superior in my opinion and always will be. The very large majority of Kuwaitis, Saudis and Gulf Arabs who use our health service prove that even more so.

Concerning the American education system in my district, my son's school is a government one which at the beginning of this year introduced this American way of learning. It's basically still in the early stages but should show signs at the end of this school year whether the children (Kuwaiti) have benefitted from it or not.

If it proves a success, then I am sure our children when leaving school will be able to pinpoint Kuwait on the map. If not, then the Kuwaiti education authorities will probably introduce something better. My reference to these points are only to prove that even if their own systems don't work, the Kuwaiti government is always willing to introduce other systems to benefit their people whether they come along with mistakes or problems.

Surely in time it will show whether they have learned from these flaws to go on and introduce new ways whether they be Kuwaiti, American or British. I don't know of any country that can claim to have perfect health, education and society. Anyone with common sense can see that all is not perfect with society. We hope and pray, with flaws here and there, as we as parents can instill good manners, morals and decency in our future generations.

Perhaps Alhamar with admit to these flaws around him and I hope he will impress on his children to make this country a better one for the future of all people.

D. Baranda

Al Rowda

UMO's achievements

SIR: This is to disclose some vital facts about UMO's activities. UMO is the organisation which conducted Bharat Mela for the first time in Kuwait during 1986-87 and it was a grand success. They collected good amounts from the community by organising dance festival, Natya; souvenir production, Malayalee Samajam; Cultural programme, Tapasya; drama competition and a children's competition at IAC.

But UMO never collected a single fil as admission fee from the public. UMO's services are not limited, but wide and sincere. Some of their achievements are: getting redressal for dead body transport to India, scholarship for brilliant and deserving students, the price hike check of Indian vegetables, evening counter at Embassy of India for the service, UMO's important relief actions towards starving people.

K. Suvarna

Safat

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"I knew there was something strange about it but I never dreamed it would be a dog screaming when I found out and felt physically sick. It smelt absolutely

Blackmail: cries Jibril of Pan Am charge

BEIRUT, Jan 10, (AP): Radical Palestinian leader Ahmed Jibril said yesterday that he engineered the bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet over Scotland was a deliberate attempt to blackmail Syria.

"We believe that campaign is aimed at blackmailing Syria and President Hafez Assad, because the United States and (President George) Bush believe the time is ripe to settle scores with countries and movements hostile to imperialism," Jibril told a hastily-arranged press conference.

Jibril, a former Syrian army captain who heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Com-

mand, has been blamed for the midair explosion of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on Dec 21, 1988.

All 259 people on board and 11 people on the ground were killed.

Jibril claimed that the United States and France also hold Syria responsible for the twin suicide truck bombings of the American marine base and the French paratroop headquarters in Beirut that killed 24 US servicemen and 58 Frenchmen in 1983.

"But they do not want to face Syria outright so they did it indirectly by trying to implicate us in the (Lockerbie) bombing," Jibril told the packed news con-

ference at Mar Elias Palestinian refugee camp in West Beirut.

"We say it loud and clear that President Hafez Assad is not a Noriega and Syria is not a banana republic," the unshaven, tired-looking Jibril said in reference to the recent US invasion of Panama and the subsequent arrest of its former dictator Noriega.

Asked whether he condemns the Lockerbie bombing, Jibril said, "we condemn all acts that lead to the killing of civilians and innocents."

"But by the same token I want to ask, hasn't Bush in his recent attack on Panama willfully killed children, women and

infants?" Asked to comment on reports that his group and Iran plotted the Lockerbie attack together, Jibril said, "These are just fabrications that are not based on any kind of truth."

Jibril and other radical groups broke ranks with the PLO led by Yasser Arafat over the PLO's recognition of Israel's right to exist.

Jibril rejected a call by another breakaway leader, Khaled Fahoum, former head of the PLO's parliament-in-exile, for a reunification of all dissident factions with the PLO.

Shiites step up battle in Lebanon

SIDON, Jan 10, (Agencies): Rival Shiite Muslim militias clashed with renewed fury in South Lebanon today, spurning mediation efforts by Iran.

The pro-Syrian Amal and Iranian-backed Hezbollah militias rained artillery shells and rockets on each others' positions for the 19th successive day, sending terrified villagers scurrying for cover.

Both groups, fighting for leadership of Lebanon's 1.3 million Shiites, denied a statement by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Ali Beshtari yesterday that a ceasefire had been agreed.

Security sources said the militias shelled each other's positions in the villages of Ain Qana, Ain Beuswar, Jarjouh and Arsalim in the Iqlim Al Tufah area, 40 km (25 miles) south of Beirut.

There were no reports of casualties from the six-hour non-stop barrage, the fiercest in five days. At least 76 people have been killed and 280 wounded since fighting erupted on December 23.

Scores of villagers fled their homes. Many who fled earlier had just returned, thinking the fighting had eased.

Political sources said Beshtari, who arrived in Beirut on Sunday, met separately yesterday with leaders of Amal and Hezbollah.

Muslim sources told Reuters the Iranian envoy, in several hours of talks, failed to persuade Hezbollah to withdraw from five villages seized from Amal in street-to-street battles.

The sources said the Hezbollah asked for guarantees that a peace pact signed last year with the more secular Amal would be implemented. Amal has said Hezbollah must quit the villages before any talks can start.

Despite recurring confrontations between Shiite militias in southern Lebanon, a Palestinian official said today the deployment of some 700 Palestinian troops has succeeded in halting the fighting.

An official in the PLO's main-stream Fatah Movement, Zeid Wehbe, said despite the limited violations "the deployment of Palestinian commandos stopped the violence by 90 per cent."

Some 700 Palestinians deployed last week from bases around Sidon to the region of Tufah in what has been described as a peace-keeping mission to act as a buffer zone between the rival Shiite groups.

"This was a Palestinian decision taken by (PLO chairman) Yasser Arafat to end the bloodshed," Wehbe said. "Any operations room which excludes the PLO cannot achieve its complete role in resisting Israel."

Iran hangs 31 drug traffickers

NICOSIA, Jan 10, (Agencies): Iran hanged 31 drug traffickers today, including four Afghans and three women, in the first reported executions of such offenders this year, Tehran Radio said.

The radio said those executed in various parts of the country had distributed four tonnes of narcotics and spread prostitution.

The largest number 23, were sent to the gallows in the city of Karaj north of Tehran.

The Afghans were hanged after being found guilty of bringing drugs into Iran.

Iran, which officially admits to having a million addicts, lies on a drug-smuggling route from Afghanistan to the West.

Three of those hanged in Karaj were women, two of whom were sisters, and four were Afghan nationals, the report said.

The latest executions brought to at least 1,294 the total number of people hanged for drug trafficking in Iran since January 1989.

Baker may abandon Mideast peace bid

Israel fails to respond to US

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 10, (Agencies): Israel's decision-making inner cabinet met today amid reports that US Secretary of State James A. Baker may abandon efforts to arrange a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

Israel radio said Baker, in an effort to revitalise the process, had asked US Jewish leaders and several members of Congress to pressure Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to be more flexible.

Israel has demanded iron-clad assurances from the United States that Yasser Arafat's PLO would have no direct or indirect role in proposed talks to be held in Cairo.

On Tuesday, Baker was reportedly frustrated with delays in convening Israeli-Palestinian talks on an Israeli election proposal prompted by the 25-month-old uprising in the occupied territories.

A participant at Baker's meeting with Norway's Foreign Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik told reporters the secretary of state might soon decide to devote his time to other world matters "where there was some hope of getting things done."

The State Department said a preparatory meeting this month of Israeli, Egyptian and American foreign ministers was in doubt for lack of progress.

Israel says it is worried that the United States, its closest ally, will at some time assert the right of the PLO to take part in peace efforts.

The 12 member Israeli inner cabinet failed to respond to the American bid to convene Israeli-Palestinian talks.

"There are some problems to be solved but we believe the process is very much alive," Foreign Ministry spokesman Moti Amitai told reporters.

Inner cabinet met but offered no response to the latest American bid to advance an Israeli proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

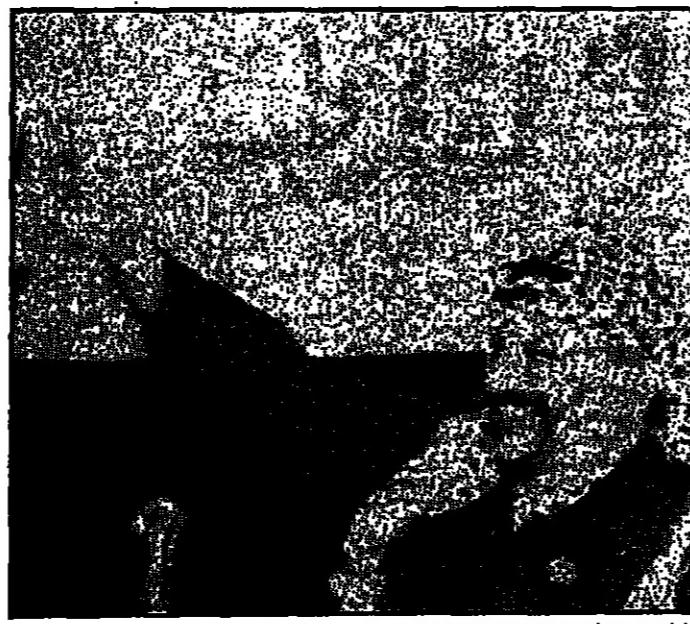
Israel radio said the policy-making inner cabinet would act only after Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin returned next week from a trip to Washington.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said if Baker ends his personal involvement in Middle East peace efforts, Israel will look for other ways to implement its election plan.

"It would turn out that we cannot, through Mr. Baker's five points, arrive at this dialogue that will deal with the procedures for holding elections then we will find another route to ... move on to the elections," he said on Israeli radio.

Arafat said his talks with Abdel-Meguid were conducted as part of regular consultations between the PLO and Egypt for reaching a just and comprehensive Arab-Israeli settlement.

The tripartite meeting gathering Abdel-Meguid, Baker and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens had been expected to take place in Washington this month.



Arafat waves the victory sign to a crowd of people gathered to see him at the Egyptian Labour University in Cairo. (Reuter wirephoto)

Groundwork needed for ME talks

CAIRO, Jan 10, (Agencies): Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat held talks today with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in a fresh attempt to revive what commentators said was dwindling interest in the Middle East peace process.

No details emerged and Arafat, chairman of the PLO avoided reporters after the one-hour meeting.

Palestinian sources said Arafat and Mubarak, joined by their top policy makers, discussed peace moves and implications of Egypt's newly restored ties with Syria — a base for anti-Arafat Palestinian factions.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid said yesterday that adequate preparations should precede the proposed Middle East peace negotiations, postponed due to unresolved problems.

Abdel-Meguid was reacting to a US decision to postpone a meeting with Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers.

He made the statement to reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Arafat.

"Egypt is keen for the establishment of the dialogue, and to guarantee its success, adequate preparations should be made. We can not go to a meeting that would result in failure," Abdel-Meguid said.

Arafat said his talks with Abdel-Meguid were conducted as part of regular consultations between the PLO and Egypt for reaching a just and comprehensive Arab-Israeli settlement.

The tripartite meeting gathering Abdel-Meguid, Baker and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens had been expected to take place in Washington this month.

And Arens in Washington.

"As long as there is hope, there is reason to be engaged," Tuvaler said. But she added: "He's also a realist. If the parties are serious he will continue to work with them."

The tripartite meeting was scheduled to be held this month, but was postponed until February due to unresolved differences over the PLO role and the agenda for the proposed Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo.

It was designed to reach agreement on the composition of a Palestinian delegation that would meet with Israeli officials in Cairo to discuss Israel's elections proposal.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tuvaler said Baker called Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid yesterday to discuss a planned meeting between Meguid, Baker

"It is absurd to have a meeting if the meeting resolves nothing," Tuvaler said.

The meeting of the three foreign ministers was the cornerstone of Baker's five-point plan to restart the peace process.

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Soviet ballet dancers to perform in Kuwait

AFTER the successful performance of the Bolshoi Ballet in Kuwait last year, Soviet Ballet returns with a brand new company featuring ballet stars from several noted Russian dance companies.

Thirty-four dancers from the Russian Ballet Company will give two performances on Feb 2 and 3 at the Andalus Cinema.

The Soviet ballet dancers will be in Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour that takes them to Qatar, Oman and the UAE.

The soloists are Vyacheslav Gordeev and Irina Lazareva, who belong to the world-renowned

Bolshoi group; Kaye Kyrb of the Estonia ballet company and Yana Kazantseva of the Russian Ballet Company of Moscow.

The Russian Ballet Company of Moscow is the youngest among the several ballet theatres in the Soviet Union. This company is noted for preserving the "heritage of the art" despite acquiring contemporary artistry and skills. It was founded in 1988 by Vyacheslav Gordeev, who believes in creating a balance between contemporary and classical dance.

The company's repertoire has been influenced by historic choreographic records from past

performances of the Russian and Soviet ballet periods. They were one of the first to perform the works of Blanche and Jose Lemon in the USSR.

The American press has acclaimed Gordeev as the "most artistic and elegant dancer from the Bolshoi."

Gordeev graduated from the Moscow Ballet Academy in 1968 and joined the Bolshoi Ballet as a soloist in the same year. In 1973, he won the title of the Lenin Komsomol and was named the "People's Artist" in 1984. From that date, he has been the driving force behind the Russian Ballet Company, touring several countries including Mexico, Portugal, India, Italy, France, West Germany and the US.

Yana Kazantseva of the Russian Ballet Company of Moscow is also an award-winner and has

and Albert in Giselle.

Irina Lazarava was invited to join the Bolshoi company as a soloist. She is one of the few dancers who can dance almost all the classical solo numbers, including Giselle (Giselle); Princess Froline (Sleeping Beauty); the Spanish Doll (Nutcracker) and the Shepherdess (Spartacus). She is well-known for her modern ballet pieces such as Spring Waters and Mashkovsky's Waltz.

The soloist of the Estonian Ballet Theatre, Kaye Kyrb, won a gold medal at the All Soviet Ballet Competition in 1984. She has since won several awards, including the prestigious title of becoming the "People's Artist of Estonia."

Yana Kazantseva of the Russian Ballet Company of Moscow is also an award-winner and has

an extensive repertoire including most of the recognised classical pieces. Some of them will be performed in Kuwait.

In most countries, the company performs a full-length ballet, but in several cases they perform a series of pieces from various ballets. This will be done in Kuwait as well, and they are expected to perform excerpts from Tchaikovsky's "Sleeping Beauty," Pugni's Carnival in Venice and Esmeralda, Adam's Giselle, Drigo's Harlequinade and many others.

There will be two performances in Kuwait on Friday, Feb 2 (6 pm) and Saturday, Feb 3 (8 pm). The Friday show will commence at the earlier time of 6 pm so that school students can attend, said organiser Anant Kapadiya.

Ticket prices are KD 6, 9 and 15 and will shortly go on sale.



(Right): Principal soloists Gordeev and Irina
Top: One of the ballet numbers



WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Photography and Oil painting classes

Oil painting classes beginning 15 January.

Photography classes beginning 16 and 17 January.

8 week course, once a week 4:30 to 7:30 pm. For further details please call Ann Eid Tel. 2426135 or Yasmeen 5326833.

Tribal Rugs & Oriental Prints

THE Sultan Gallery will be holding a Tribal Rugs and Oriental Prints exhibition starting Saturday Dec 23 until Jan 15. On Saturday, the Gallery will be open from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Else, it will be open from 9:30 am to 12:30 noon and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. For more information contact: 2421951.

Hobby centre

A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making. For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

SOCIAL

Ramada Al Salam

GRAND Indian Food Festival from January 21-26. Display stalls open to Indian companies and individuals. Contact Clifton or Siddiq on 4835344.

British Council

THE Scarlet and the Black — 137 min. Saturday, 13 Jan and Sunday, 14 Jan at 6:30 pm. This is the remarkable story of an Irish priest, Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty who founded an organisation to help escaping Allied prisoners of war. Features a brilliant cast: Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer and John Gielgud. Admission is free but please telephone to reserve seats: 2515512, 2533227.

Study the Humanities and Social Sciences in Britain. For more information on degree level studies of these subjects, please visit The British Council Education Office on Monday and Tuesday, 15 and 16 January, 9:00 am to 12:30 pm and 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. For more information contact: 2421951.

Tivlin Centre

"TIVIM" Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Inter Village Football Tournament which will be held on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 27/28th 1990. For further information please contact organisers — 2441860 Casmuro."

The People's Trust Club

The People's Trust Club's get together which was to be held on Jan 11 has been cancelled. The club apologises for any inconvenience.

Like a Hurricane!

SEVENTH Sky's upcoming Rock concert at Al Andalus cinema on 15th & 16th February, 1990. We are looking for voluntary helpers and also an additional male & female vocalist. Ring 5748476 or 2543219.

Konkani Drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's "Sounasarat Astana Dua" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaitae) on the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar.

Saaz Aur Aawaz

FEB 2: Saaz Aur Aawaz, one of the leading Indian musical groups of Kuwait present their fourth musical programme entitled Bhule Bise Geet. The show includes Hindi film songs at the Indian Arts Circle. Functionaries on February 2, 1990. Passes will be available shortly.

Contact

THE next meeting of Contact, the ladies information group, will be held on January 13 at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Their chef will be

giving a demonstration. Newcomers welcome. For further information call 5388105 or 4874513.

Kuwait Little Theatre

Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi are holding auditions for a comedy to be staged in the theatre in early March and directed by Dave Dorrington. The auditions will be held in the Theatre on 21 and 22 January at 8 pm. All those interested in auditioning are welcome. Those interested in helping backstage are also welcome to attend.

Caledonian Society

The Annual Burns Night Supper will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel on Thursday, February 1st. For further information and ticket reservation phone: 5335082, 5332235 or 3727691 ext. 253.

Adabi Digest

An Urdu monthly Adabi Digest (literary magazine) will be launched on Thursday, Jan 11, 8:30 pm at the Meridien Hotel. The magazine will be issued from Lahore, Pakistan. A mushaira (poetry session) will also be held.

SPORTS

Daniella Dart Tournament 1990 The Dart Tournament for Danes will take place at the

Gazelle Club on Friday, Jan 26, starting at 2pm (expected to finish at 8 pm). It is a family event featuring separate junior tournament, so don't leave the children at home. For further details and registration, please call Henrik Licht — 3727688 ext 246; or Bjarne Rasmussen — 3720137 before Saturday, Jan 20.

Rothmans Gold Cup Finals

THE finals of the Rothman's Gold Cup Football Tournament organised by Salcete United Sports Centre, the sports wing of the weekend club, will take place on the Sour Grounds on Friday, January 12 at 9:00 am. Between Incredible Sports Club and Goan Sporting, Aref Easa, manager of Rothmans, will give away the trophies. All are cordially invited.

Adabi Digest

Fajr 5:20 am
Zohr 11:56
Asr 2:49 pm
Maghreb 5:08
Isha 6:30

FRIDAY

Fajr 5:20 am
Zohr 11:56
Asr 2:50 pm
Maghreb 5:09
Isha 6:31

PRAYERS

KID'S CAMP

FRIDAY

Fajr 5:20 am
Zohr 11:56
Asr 2:49 pm
Maghreb 5:08
Isha 6:30

SPORTS

Daniella Dart Tournament 1990 The Dart Tournament for Danes will take place at the

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran

9.15 Cartoons

9.45 Sabah Al Kher news

10.00 Magazine D'Actualite

10.30 Rejal Fil Masyada:

Arabic serial (part 4), starring Muna Abdul Ghani, Mohammed Redha, Raja Al Jaddawi

11.30 The Open University: Cultural programme

12.00 Sabah Al Kher news

12.15 Live from the Grand Mosque for the Friday prayers and speeches.

12.25 Alwan: Variety programme prepared by Mohammed Al Faras and presented by Fatema Abdul Wahab.

1.00 News Summary

1.05 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

1.20 Hadieh Dinee: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Mohammed Metwalli Al Sharawi.

2.00 The Friday Break: Local programme

4.00 Al Hob We Seneo.

5.00 Bereen: Cartoon serial

5.30 Cartoons

5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements.

6.00 Kuwait Television in A Week: Local programme

6.30 Kuwait in A Week: News programme

7.00 The Living Planet: Cultural programme (part 2)

8.00 The Family Programme: Local programme, prepared by Tahani Al Burqali, and presented by Fatema Rashed.

8.45 Hadieh Al Osbo: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Ali Jassar.

8.00 Kul Al Fonoon: Local programme, prepared by Hassan Awara, presented by Rasha Majdi

8.30 Maa Al Islam: Religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Khaled Al Matkour

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Ghadan Tushreq Al Shams: Arabic serial (part 10)

10.45 Al Mushaghabat Fi Khatar: Arabic feature film, starring Farouq Al Fishawi, Dalal Abdul Aziz, Samah Anwar

12.20 Thursday late night variety show

1.30 News summary

1.35 The World Today via Satellite

1.50 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran

9.15 Cartoons

9.45 Sabah Al Kher news

10.00 Magazine D'Actualite

10.30 Rejal Fil Masyada:

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Sri Lankan trade team for Kuwait

A HIGH level trade delegation from Sri Lanka is due to arrive in Kuwait today, aiming to give new impetus to Sri Lankan industrial exports. It has been organised by the Sri Lanka Export Development Board in association with the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Kuwait.

The embassy in its press release thanked Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry for "sponsoring the visit of the trade team and giving an opportunity to meet the officials of the Chamber."

The team consists of eight top Sri Lankan exporters of industrial products such as ready-made garments, biscuits, wall tiles, porcelain ware, medical rubber gloves, fibreglass boats and lithography and are coming to Kuwait as a part of their tour in the Middle East and after visiting UAE and Egypt.

The team will be in Kuwait for three days at the Hotel Ramada and will be leaving for Oman on Jan 14.

The names of the companies are as follows: Ceylon Biscuits Ltd, Candy Garments, Unicel Marketing Services Ltd, Dankotuwa Porcelain, Lanka Tiles Ltd, Nishi Shipyard Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Hanwella Rubber Products Ltd, and Arnico Industries.

The embassy has made necessary arrangements to enable them to meet Kuwait business partners.

However, those who are interested in meeting the delegation can contact P.M.B. Sodhi, commercial secretary at the Embassy of Sri Lanka or Mr. K. Jayaselle, deputy director of Sri Lanka Export Development Board who is the leader of the team on Tel. 4837612 or 4844862.

ABC to open branch in Amman

AMMAN, Jan 10. (Reuter): The Bahrain-based Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) will open its first branch in Jordan on Saturday, an official said today.

The new bank, named Arab Banking Corporation Jordan, has a paid up capital of 10 million dinars (\$15 million). It is a joint venture between ABC and Jordan's Housing Bank.

"ABC Jordan will begin its activities as a fully-fledged commercial bank on January 13," the official told Reuters.

ABC and the Housing Bank took over the financially-hit Jordan Securities Corporation, a local investment firm, and turned it into a ABC Jordan.

ABC owns 60 per cent of the shares. The Housing Bank has 25 per cent of the shares and the remainder are held by other shareholders.

Jordanian officials and bankers welcomed ABC's investment in the kingdom, whose economy is burdened by an \$8-billion foreign debt.

With the exception of ABC Jordan, there are 20 local, Arab and foreign banks operating in Jordan, Central Bank officials say.

World Bank hikes rate

WASHINGTON, Jan 10. (UPI): The World Bank yesterday announced that its interest rate on outstanding loans to developing countries will rise to 7.75 per cent.

The rate will be applied during the first six months of the year, effective Jan 1.

During the second half of 1989, the World Bank applied rates of 7.75 and 7.75 per cent to its outstanding loans, according to the type of loan.

Oil talks

NICOSIA, Jan 10. (Reuter): United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mani Said Al Oteibi held talks today with Japanese diplomats in Abu Dhabi ahead of a Gulf tour by top Japanese oil officials.

The emirates news agency, monitored in Nicosia, said they discussed "oil relations" between the two countries.

**Announcement
Music
Examination**
The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music
Theory examination:
March 2nd.
Entries closing date: Jan 14th.
No late entries
For details contact Pauline Chen
— Representative
Tel: 2424295 (after 3 pm)

Seven oil firms to search for oil in Manila

Oil demand headed for all-time high

MANILA, Jan 10. (Reuter): Seven foreign exploration firms are joining the search for oil in the Philippines this year and local officials hope higher crude prices will spark renewed interest in the country's exploration industry.

The Office of Energy Affairs (OEA) says 11 foreign and local oil consortia are scheduled to drill a total of eight offshore and four onshore wells in the Philippines in 1990.

While some foreign investors have taken a cautious stance after the failed coup last December, foreign oil exploration firms are pushing ahead

with their plans, energy officials said.

"The key to all this is a continuous effort to drum up activities to show we have the potential," said OEA executive director Wenceslao de la Paz.

"The trigger of course would be a major (oil) discovery," he said in a telephone interview.

There has been no major discovery since the late 1970s when there was a flurry of exploration activity, and as many as 20 wells were drilled annually.

Oil exploration then tapered off and ground to a halt in 1985-86. Activity resumed in 1987 when four wells were

drilled followed by eight the following year, De La Paz said.

Last year, only eight of the planned 15 wells were actually drilled. Other sites needed further technical evaluation, the OEA said.

Of the eight, two were oil and gas discoveries which were temporarily plugged awaiting further tests while two were dry wells with gas shows which were later abandoned.

The rest are undergoing further tests while one, North Matinloc-3 well, is producing oil.

Local oil production from five oil-

fields off the coast of Palawan island amounted to about 1.6 million barrels in 1989, a level the government hopes would increase to 1.8 million this year.

Meanwhile the International Energy Agency (IEA), the West's energy "watchdog," predicted on Tuesday oil demand would rise this year and could hit an all-time high.

But forecasts in an IEA oil market report also suggested that Opec might need to show better output discipline than it has done recently if it wants to be sure of buoying up prices.

World crude prices have tumbled

this week after a strong rally caused by an icy December in North America, although they stayed firm on Tuesday in a range of \$19 to \$22 a barrel.

The IEA said oil consumption last year outside socialist countries — the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China — averaged 51.9 million barrels daily.

At least 12.5 million more may be added for the socialist countries, so the 1989 total roughly equals the previous record for world consumption of 64.5 million, in 1979, before the high Opec prices of that period depressed demand.

For the whole of 1990 the IEA now forecasts a further gain in demand of one million barrels daily or two per cent.

But it also sees a temporary seasonal dip in demand of three million from current levels during the period between the end of the northern winter and the peak summer holiday motoring period.

And supply from exporters who do not belong to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), which rose sharply in the 1980s, will remain steady.

Kuwait Fund loan for Cairo

Egypt's new dollar bonds sell slowly

CAIRO, Jan 10. (Agencies):

Egypt has sold only 11 percent of new dollar bonds issued in November, but was optimistic they would eventually find buyers and create a new capital market, a senior Egyptian banker said today.

Mahmoud Abdel Aziz, deputy chairman of the National Bank of Egypt, said about \$50 million worth of bonds had been sold out of a total \$30 million available for subscription.

He told Reuters: Egypt was keen to test the market and wait for individual buyers, rather than persuade big public sector banks to buy up the bonds.

"No public banks will go in and buy bonds. We want to leave room. It is a challenge to create a new market...it is a new concept in the creation of a capital market. To create a capital market takes time," he said.

The state-run National Invest-

ment Bank is offering the 10-year bonds to Egyptian and non-Egyptian investors with an issue price of 100 per cent and an interest rate of 0.5 per cent over Libor (London Interbank Offered Rate).

The plan is designed to channel savings, particularly of Egyptians working abroad, into investment in the country.

Aziz, a member of the committee responsible for the bonds, said money raised from the bonds would be used to finance projects which would generate foreign currency, like those in the export sector and tourism.

Aziz said the banking sector was liquid in dollars with about \$12 billion held on deposit, but few people want to run the foreign exchange risk of borrowing in dollars.

The dollar bond issue would mop up surplus dollars. People starting new projects could also use the bonds as a guarantee to borrow in Egyptian pounds.

Aziz said most bonds sales so far had been made locally.

Egypt was also marketing the bonds in Gulf Arab states, hoping to attract savings of Egyptians working there along with local investors.

The bonds are exempt from any current or future taxes, and can be traded on the Cairo Stock Exchange after one year.

Aziz said they offered higher interest rates and greater flexibility than other instruments on the market. The highest available rate is about 1/8 or 1/16 per cent below Libor.

The bonds are guaranteed by the Central Bank of Egypt, with interest to be paid every six months.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development will grant Egypt about \$47 million in loan which Cairo will use to finance upgrading an industrial plant.

A memo of understanding concerning the loan was signed here by the fund's director general Badr Al Humeidi and Egyptian Industry Minister Mohammed Abdul-Wahab.

Humeidi told Kuna later the Kuwait Fund will study details of the loan and a final agreement was likely to be signed in March.

The entire process, right from making the polyester chips, extruding the film base along with a blue dye to make it suitable for photographic use, manufacturing the silver halide emulsion used, and the coating process had been developed entirely in-house.

The medical fraternity all over the world prefers the new polyester-base film, as it has less water absorption and does not curl. Also, it makes for sharp, clear images.

Since the know-how for making polyester-base X-ray and graphic arts films is not currently available with anybody else in the country, this technological development represents an import substitution to the tune of Rs 100 crore, which would otherwise have had to be spent for importing the technology and know-how, as well as meeting training costs.

The company's other indigenous polyester products, like metallised film used in packaging, coloured film for cable insulation, heat-sealable film, tracing and drafting films, as well as packaging laminates and films for dyeing guarantee zari yarn, have all found acceptance in overseas markets.

Al Shroogi is currently the general manager for Bahrain and Kuwait.

He will head the institutional and investment, offshore business activities managed in Bahrain and relating to these countries.

The consolidation of Citibank activities comes in recognition of the business potential in this region.

Citibank gets regional chief

CITIBANK N.A. Bahrain has announced that the institutional and investment banking activities in Bahrain will be combined under the direction of Mohammed Al Shroogi as the global finance business head for Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

Al Shroogi is currently the general manager for Bahrain and Kuwait.

He will head the institutional and investment, offshore business activities managed in Bahrain and relating to these countries.

The consolidation of Citibank activities comes in recognition of the business potential in this region.

Saudi riyal deposits steady

NICOSIA, Jan 10. (Reuter): Saudi riyal interbank deposits remained steady today in thin trade seen mainly in the short dates.

Dealers said there were no fresh factors to give the market direction. Spot-next for value Saturday-Tuesday was quoted at 7-3/4, 1/4 per cent. One-week was 8-1/8, 1-3/8 per cent.

The one-month was steady at 8-1/8, 16-7/16, three-months at 8-1/8, eight and six-months at 8-3/16, 1/16. The one-year was put at 8-1/4, eight per cent.

The spot riyal eased to 3.7510/14 to the dollar but this mainly reflected technical adjustment ahead of the Gulf Friday weekend.

It was not clear whether any compromise had been reached.

The Comecon council meeting was the first since a tide of changes swept through Eastern Europe late last year, loosening the communist grip on power in the area and opening the way for Western-style democracy and economics.

"The political situation has changed sharply and there is broad unanimity among the European members that we have to move towards a market-type integration," Comecon executive committee chairman Andrei Lukyanov of Bulgaria said.

In a closing speech, Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov said the session had lived up to predictions "that it will be a turning point in the whole development of our organisation."

Gold strengthens

Dollar eases

LONDON, Jan 10. (UPI): The dollar closed lower against the major European currencies today. Gold was up.

The dollar closed lower in Frankfurt, at 1.6795 German marks against 1.6805 at Tuesday's close, and was lower in Zurich at 1.5098 Swiss francs against 1.5275, in Paris at 5.6995 French francs against 5.7250, in Brussels at 35.09 Belgian francs against 35.27, and in Milan at 1.251, 90 lire against 1.256.50.

Earlier in Milan, the dollar fixing reached its lowest rate since May 9, 1988.

In London, the pound closed over three-fourths of a cent higher at \$1.6615 against \$1.6535.

Gold closed higher in Zurich at \$409 per ounce against Tuesday's close at \$403.50 per ounce, and was higher in London at 409.25 ounce against \$403.75 per ounce.

Silver closed higher in Zurich at \$5.30 per ounce against \$5.25 per ounce, but was lower in London at \$5.25 per ounce against \$5.29 per ounce.

In London, share prices were weak this afternoon in quiet cautious business as losses on Wall Street weighed on sentiment here, dealers said.

The US market suffered on fears of a disappointing round of fourth quarter US corporate earnings figures, dealers said.

The market here was worried about the outlook for Britain's economy after the next round of UK company results.

One strategist said, "we're getting perilously close to the release of final company results and people are worried we could have a few nasty surprises."

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All applications will be treated confidentially.

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You can invest any amount from £1000 up to £250,000 for a period of up to 10 years and you will receive a lump sum Capital Bonus at the end of the investment period paid without deduction of tax at source. And on the third and each successive anniversary you can elect to change the period of investment - without penalty.

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Merck and Philip most admired companies

NEW YORK, Jan 10, (AP): America's two most admired corporations are its biggest maker of pharmaceuticals and its largest producer of cigarettes.

For Merck and Co., it was the fourth consecutive year the drug maker has topped the magazine's ranking of the most admired large companies in the United States.

Philip Morris Cos., the world's biggest consumer products company with a stable of brands that includes Marlboro cigarettes and Kraft Foods, improved to the No. 2 position from fourth last year.

The two companies stood out in a ranking of 305 companies based on a survey of more than 8,000 directors, the magazine said. The companies were rated in eight separate categories.

The biggest casualty on this year's list was Exxon Corp., which plummeted to No. 110. It was ranked sixth last year, before the Alaskan oil spill.

Philip Morris finished a close second and was cited as the best company in terms of its quality of management and its value as a long-term investment. The company's shares give investors an average total return of 30.1 per cent a year from 1979 to 1989, the magazine said.

Engineering giant for Gulf power show

CROMPTON Greaves, India's largest manufacturer of electrical engineering products, is among 19 first-time exhibitors lining up for Middle East Electricity '90 — the Gulf's premier showcase for the power industry.

The show, which opens next Monday at the Dubai World Trade Centre and lasts for four days, has attracted a record number of exhibitors with stand bookings virtual double those of 1988.

Crompton Greaves, which spent more than \$4 million on research and development last year, has worked its way into India's industrial records book by pioneering many of the country's engineering "firsts." These include, the first short circuit testing transformer to be built in the country, the first 220 KV transformer in the country, the first indigenous flame-proof motor to be used in the petroleum industry and 11 KV vacuum circuit breaker.

Investors meet

KUWAIT, Jan 10, (Kuna): A meeting will be held in Cairo tomorrow to prepare for the fifth conference of Arab businessmen and investors, according to a statement by the organisers here yesterday.

The Kuwait-based Inter-Arab Investment Guaranty Corporation, one of the organisers, said the Cairo meeting would determine the date and venue of the conference as well as its agenda topics.

It recalled that during the fourth conference of Arab businesses and investors, held in Tunis in November 1988, the Egyptian delegation had offered to host the conference.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Arab League, the Inter-Arab Investment Guaranty Corporation and the Arab General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, Jan 10, (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.	
Selling	Buying
US dollar 0.29085	0.29203
Sterling 0.48224	0.4737
DM 0.19203	0.19450
SFr 0.19200	0.19389
F.Fr 0.05103	0.05126
Li.lira 0.0002323	0.0002335
Jap.yen 0.0019662	0.0020049
Bah.din 0.77156	0.77483
UAE Dir. 0.77553	0.77785
S.riyal 0.07987	0.08073
O.riyal 0.75547	0.75858

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Jan 10, (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates of local bank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.		
Period	Bld	Offered
1 month	8-1/4	8-1/2
3 months	8-1/4	8-1/2
6 months	8-1/8	8-3/8
1 year	8-1/8	8-3/8

EXCHANGERATES

Indian rupee			0.017360
Sri Lankan rupee	0.017370		
Pakistani rupee	0.013730		
Bangladesh taka	0.008970		
US dollar	2.91950		
Pound sterling	4.85750		
UAE dirham	1.74600		
Deutsche mark	1.74600		
Japanese yen	0.020170		

Thatcher forges ahead with bigger, more complex sell-offs

LONDON, Jan 10, (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is forging ahead with bigger, more complex sell-offs of state-owned companies in a privatisation programme that has more than tripled the number of British shareholders.

Helped by the booming stock market of the 1980s, Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government has raised £3 billion (\$5.3 billion) by selling such industries and services as steel, gas and telephones. Next in line is electricity.

Not all the flotation have been successful, and Thatcher has faced a barrage of accusations that she is giving away the nation's assets. Harold Macmillan, the late Prime Minister, once likened it to an impoverished family selling off its heirlooms.

But privatisation has become one of the most striking features of Thatcher's

decade in office, and a powerful weapon in her crusade to bury British socialism.

The prime minister, who believes companies perform better in the private sector, has overseen the transformation of stodgy nationalised industries into thriving competitive businesses. A prime example is British Airways PLC, or BA, which, as the US magazine Business Week wrote, has been turned from "bloody awful" into "bloody

population has bought into the privatised companies, according to treasury figures.

Thatcher has used the sales' revenue to convert national budget deficits into surpluses and to cut the income tax rate to just 40 per cent for top earners and 25 per cent for the rest, a post-World War II low.

Hugo Young, political columnist for the left-leaning Guardian newspaper, praises Thatcher for reducing the role of government in British life.

"Whatever might be said about the way this was done," Young wrote in "One of us," his Thatcher biography, "the gentlemen in Whitehall no longer ran the gas industry or telephone industry."

Privatisation has been so successful, its supporters say, that Britain has become an exporter of privatisation

know-how, copied by countries as diverse as Japan, Turkey, France and Chile.

But critics say Thatcher has become too radical during her third consecutive term, taking her privatisation programme too far.

They say the government is selling Britons what they already own as taxpayers, or underpricing shares to ensure success.

Particularly contentious is the sale of water and electricity, which critics say should remain state-owned, at least for reasons of national security.

Moreover, they say, many privatised industries remain monopolies, insufficiently regulated to protect consumers.

But investors have bought shares enthusiastically and generally have

profited. A shareholder who bought 100 British Gas shares in December 1986 could have sold them at a 34 per cent profit as soon as they began trading, or could have kept them and be 76 per cent richer today, plus dividends. Sweeteners included paying for the shares in installments, bonus shares or vouchers for free gas.

The one big flop was the sale of the government's one-third interest in British Petroleum Co. PLC. The £7.2-billion (\$12-billion) sale, the largest so far, coincided with the October 1987 stock markets crash and many shares were left in the hands of stockbrokers. Brokers later sold the shares probably at a loss, though the price wasn't disclosed. But BP's price has since risen.

The most recent sell-off, of the 10 water authorities of England and

Wales, was widely expected to fail, because the stock market nearly crashed last October and water seemed too vital a commodity to expose to market forces.

But the sale proved the second most popular privatisation after gas, drawing some 2.7 million applications for shares.

Sell-offs must be approved by parliament, but the Conservatives' large majority virtually assures assent.

The government spent years and billions of pounds grooming its targets for the competitive world. It wrote off their debts, injected them with capital, closed plants and laid off workers.

The government, for instance, wrote off losses and spurred layoffs in British Steel Plc. once hailed by the Guinness Book of world records as running up the world's biggest-ever corporate loss.

Pressures for mergers will grow

Future brighter for Gulf banks in 1990s

Bahrain, Jan 10, (Reuter): The 1990s look rosier for Gulf-based banks but bankers in the region say the market is still overcrowded and many of the miners are ill-equipped to deal with growing competition at home and abroad.

Business confidence will mend as long as the peace between Iran and Iraq holds and oil prices — the barometer of Gulf economies — don't collapse as they did in 1985-86, they say.

Local governments, still the region's main spenders, are bringing some planned industry projects out of mothballs.

But bankers say pressures for bank mergers will grow within the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) as smaller banks find the going getting tougher.

Few local banks have the depth or experience to compete outside the region, they add.

"There will be a continuous flow of industrial projects into the market for the next three to five years which will give local banks new opportunities for business," said Hassan Juman, general manager of National Bank of Bahrain.

"But I personally feel there is room for merging some of these banks, especially if we look at what's happening internationally — there are lots of duplications which cost money," he added.

GCC governments would not allow their own banks to go bankrupt but might enforce mergers, the bankers said.

Economists say domestic banks within the GCC — grouping Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates — have only just started to tap the immense potential of commercial and investment banking in the area.

Most have decided to target their own markets for growth, rather than risk the costly pitfalls of overseas expansion.

Consumer finance, Automated Teller Machines and traditional packaged and service products all have scope in a region where a preference for cash still leads to some hoarding of bank notes.

Lack of even such basic investment outlets as stocks and bonds means billions of dollars will go on being channelled out of the region. Gulf economists say it will be years before alternatives are available at home.

But many banks in Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia are setting up private banking departments in a bid to snatch the wealth-management business away from foreign firms.

It's a very tough market to break into because of the traditional relationship people have with Swiss and foreign bankers," National Bank of Kuwait assistant GM Ziad Takay said.

"Some wealthy Arab investors do not like the thought of their wealth being known or managed by others in the area — it's a private thing so out it goes," said one Western banker.

Bankers say the expertise of

big foreign investment houses will be a tough nut for Gulf banks to crack.

With the exception of the Bahrain-based Investcorp, no major institution in the Gulf has used the strategy of buying up undervalued companies overseas and packaging them into interesting investment products for Gulf customers.

"There will have to be more of that in the future and foreign banks are streets ahead ... most Arab banks haven't got the transactional base to build on," one Western banker said.

Bankers predict foreign exchange will continue to be a major source of revenue for commercial and offshore banks in the area.

Trade finance is also a big earner but competition from major foreign firms is tough.

Bankers say they expect more asset-backed finance deals in the region in the next few years, mainly in aircraft and shipping as well as oil/governmental contracts.

But corporate lending opportunities are limited. Few private firms have survived the recession intact and banks which were badly hurt by non-performing loans in the mid-1980s are only willing to lend to the most successful firms.

The international syndication market is subdivided and sovereign loans to GCC governments will be few and far between especially if oil prices continue to pick up, the bankers say.

Increasing sophistication among regional borrowers like the state of Oman and the Bahrain-based airline Gulf Air has narrowed profit margins on what loans are available, making competition even fiercer.

"There simply isn't enough of a pie available for everyone to make a living out of," one Bahrain-based banker said.

Offshore banking units based in Bahrain face major problems as domestic banks elsewhere in the Gulf develop the ability to steal some of their local business.

Their number has dwindled to 58 from a peak of 74 in 1985.

Bankers say an international decision to classify all states outside the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development with the exception of Saudi Arabia — as high credit risks will hurt Arab banks by increasing the cost of their finance.

The integration of Europe in 1992 poses yet another challenge. Only foreign banks with a European-incorporated subsidiary will be able to take part in the expected boom.

"The choices are traumatic. Either you acquire a bank in Europe or you're dead," said Katchi Katchadurian, general manager of the offshore Bahrain Middle East Bank.

"My guess is that if you are already in Europe and are viable and professional bankers you will be classified as a European bank — but most of the Arab world has gone to sleep when it comes to 1992."

Firemen march for better pay

PARIS, Jan 10, (AP): Dressed in full gear, their sirens wailing, several thousand French firefighters marched through Paris yesterday to demand better pay and increased forces.

As frequently occurs in French labour protests, quarreling unions conducted separate marches.

The communist-led General Confederation of Labour drew about 800 demonstrators to its morning protest starting at the place De La Bastille in eastern Paris.

In the afternoon, about 3,000 firefighters, a few dressed in colourful old-time Regalia, rallied under the banners of five separate unions near the Invalides on the left bank.

Firefighters from Paris and Marne-la-Vallée, all subject to military regulations and answerable to the defense ministry, were not invited. The more than 300,000 volunteers who operate in rural areas also were not invited.

One indication of Cuba's commitment to nuclear power is the fact that President Fidel Castro's son is a Soviet-trained nuclear physicist and heads the country's Atomic Energy Commission.

Nuclear officials insist there has been no sign so far that expected disruptions in economic links with socialist Eastern Europe — the result of sweeping political and economic reforms there — will affect Cuba's nuclear energy programme, which depends on the Soviet Union and its allies for know-how and technology.

Castro has predicted trading difficulties with these socialist states — trade in which Cuba currently enjoys favourable terms — as they increasingly embrace market-oriented economic policies.

Electric power transformers

BAGHDAD, Jan 10, (Reuters): Iraq has signed its first contract to supply the Soviet Union with 2,000 electric power transformers, the government weekly magazine Alef-Ba reported today.

It said \$6 million contract was part of a plan to export \$25 million worth of electrical products to the Soviet Union and other countries.

Kellogg's corn flakes showed the classic signs of a declining brand — highly recognised but average in perceived quality and low in user satisfaction. Others showing a declining profile included Nestle's Crunch, Sears Stores, Holiday Inn, Blue cross-blue shield

UK passports will become worthless once China takes over

Hong Kong ethnic minorities facing statelessness

HONG KONG, (UPI): Kewalram Sital has considered himself a Briton since he traded his Indian nationality for a British passport almost 30 years ago. But when China regains control of Hong Kong in 1997, he may become stateless.

The 57-year-old businessman is one of some 6,000 ethnic minorities in Hong Kong, mostly Indians, now holding dependent territory passports, which will be recognised solely as travel documents in Hong Kong after 1997.

"The passports we are holding will become worthless in 1997," Sital said. "They carry no right of abode, no nationality. They are meaningless."

Nearly all of Hong Kong's 5.7 million residents are ethnic Chinese and will automatically be given Chinese nationality after the 1997 transition, Sital said. "They carry no right of abode, no nationality. They are meaningless."

Nearly all of Hong Kong's 5.7 million residents are ethnic Chinese and will automatically be given Chinese nationality after the 1997 transition. But Beijing has said it will not grant Chinese citizenship to the right of abode in Hong Kong to non-Chinese.

Despite pledges from British Minister Margaret Thatcher to provide some kind of statehood for the group, Britain did not

include a special scheme for minorities in its recently announced nationality package.

The controversial package is designed to grant full United Kingdom citizenship to a total of about 250,000 of the colony's 3.5 million holders of British overseas passports.

The citizenship would be awarded to 50,000 heads of households in Hong Kong and their families, according to a point system ranking each applicant's importance in the colony.

Sital estimated only about 50 Indians would receive citizenship through the programme, designed to give the people who make Hong Kong run the confidence to

stay in the colony after 1997.

The nationality announcement sparked discontent among many Hong Kong leaders who had demanded Britain grant full citizenship to all the colony's British overseas passport holders. People in the Indian community say any British plans for a separate citizenship package for them were shelved to appease Hong Kong's ethnic Chinese.

"The Indian community is responsible for 10 per cent of Hong Kong's exports," Sital said. "Some companies have been here for three generations, yet after faithfully serving the British empire for so long, they do this to us. It is most regrettable."

Indian commissioner F K Arora said although India sympathises with the group it felt no responsibility to offer automatic Indian nationality.

"Under our laws, once someone takes the nationality of another country, he must renounce his Indian citizenship," Arora said. "If he wants to get his Indian statehood back, he can live in India for five years under a long-term visa then apply for citizenship."

"But the government would be under no obligation to approve the application. Britain should take them; they are her responsibility."

Indian community leaders say talks with mainland officials over right of abode in

Hong Kong for the group after 1997 have proved fruitless.

"They invited us all out to lunch and treated us very nicely," one said. "But they said that we were Britain's problem and told us not to involve them."

Sital has flown to the United Kingdom seven times since 1985 to lobby British lawmakers for the colony's Indian community.

He feels the chances are slim that Hong Kong's minorities will gain the right of abode in the United Kingdom, where tales of hundreds of thousands of Hong Kong Chinese seeking refuge after 1997 have alarmed a population not known for welcoming immigrants.

Despite Jaya Bachchan's efforts to improve

Children's films in a sorry state

By Firoze Rangoonwala



Will Jaya Prada see her sister behind bars?

In a country which produces an average of 800 films every year, there are hardly ten films made specially for the enjoyment and proper growth of children. The usual arguments are that there is no separate audience of kids. Parents don't like to go along and see these movies. There are no distributors to buy and no theatres to show these films. Perhaps, even our children have become so adulterated and desensitised by commercial films that they think children's films to be childish.

So many ways can be found to expose children to Indian and international films meant for them. Chocolate and biscuit companies can sponsor morning or night shows. Social service bodies and cultural busy-bodies can take some trouble to organise them. On TV, a special suitable hour should be kept apart as it can show short films too. Ultimately it's the responsibility of the Children's Film Society, to produce many such films and convert halls into temporary theatres, with mobile projectors, for shows on holidays and weekends. These films can also be put on video.

The society got a shot-in-the-arm when Jaya (Bhaduri) Bachchan, the popular "Guddi" of the screen, took over as their chairperson. Over past several years, bureaucrats had made a mess of it for personal gains. People like V. Shantaram, Sai Paranjpe, Kamini Kaushal, Amol Palekar could not do much with it and ended up with controversies and resignations. Professional directors taking up its assignments adopted a careless approach, taking them as inferior films. Children's cinema became a Cinderella, without a prince charming coming up.

Jaya Bachchan made a bang by holding an international children's film festival to go with the late Pandit Nehru's birth centenary. Chacha Nehru was a lover of children. In fact he had spurred this movement and personally motivated producers K.A. Abbas, Kadar Sharma, V. Shantaram, Raj Kapoor etc. to do films for children, which had turned out to be good and award-winning. But then the movement withered, with the C.F.S.I. becoming a white elephant and now, Jaya has also resigned after announcing big plans.

Even Jaya had not been able to get at least four features and shorts made every year or any

other notable films produced, though she said: "We have big plans. I cannot give out the names. It will happen in the natural course. But we have good film makers inquiring and wanting to make films for us."

If this had been done earlier, at least two or three excellent films by noted directors, could have been India's entries at the festival, along with 125 films from other countries. Even the main competition section had only four films from India. The inaugural film was an Indo-Mauritius co-production, "Ankur, Marina Aur Kabutar".

A wholly Indian film would have made a difference. There were three juries, including one chaired by South's Balu Mahendra and another consisting only of children themselves. Finally Greek, Czech and Korean films won top awards, while the Indian entry "Boy & Crocodile" by R. Whitaker got a special prize and best child actor award.

Five children had specially invited from each Indian region at the festival's expense, with Indian Airlines and Railways extending help. But it was a corny idea to call the child stars

of the past, like Tabassum, Master Mayur, Alankar, Sarika, Neetu Singh etc. to attend the inauguration. This is because most of today's stars have been popular child stars once. But they have merely acted like puppets and at times so precocious that they put adults to shame. Jaya herself started her career as a child with Satyajit Ray.

Jaya's enthusiasm over the festival (sixth in India) had spilled over in her talk: "I always wanted to do some good for our children. In the C.F.S.I. it is difficult, there are many stumbling blocks, yet something has been set afoot and we are on the right track. Our own children's films may not be technically excellent, but the themes are good... like 'Boy & Crocodile', where a boy saves a croc from the hands of villagers who feared it. In other countries, the technical results are superb but the themes are so irrelevant and unsentimental. I would like to make an ideal children's film myself and C.F.S.I. will expand also to make films for all young people." Then why did Jaya give up the post?

One cannot agree with Jaya's views on kids seeing violence, when she says that there is nothing wrong in it, as present society and media are full of it and children have to grow with it. Perhaps she has "somebody" in mind who acts in violent movies. She also finds nothing wrong in parents and kids seeing the same commercial films, with the strange argument: "intelligence of today's children should not be under-estimated".

Actually, everyone owes a social duty to children and they must promote the movement.

Star slips

Kabir Bedi Pooja Bedi is a sensible girl. But Aadiya thought her to be a fool. He played with her emotions. He wanted to row in two boats. When he was told to tread a single route, he quietly went back to his wife Zarina.

Waheeda Rehman: I see most of the new films. But they all look the same. They seem to be made in a great hurry. The stars rush up the work and do three shifts. So how can there be any stability?

Sangeeta Bijlani: Modelling is more difficult. We have to rely only on expressions, without dialogue, to sell a product. So transition to acting is easier. A model can become an easy and more successful actress to sell a film.

Jaya Prada has always kept her brothers and sisters, as if they had a film life and a personal life of their own. That's at least better than what Farha did with Sibling Taboo. But recent facts have thrown a spanner in Jaya's wheel. Her sister Soundarya got trapped in a case of economic crime because Jaya had been stacking got trapped in a case of economic crime because Jaya had been stacking away black money in her name. Of course they can always pay the fine and get away but there is a jail sentence too. If the appeal fails and the poor woman goes to jail, then Jaya will have indeed much to answer for. ***

Poor Deepak Parashar was pulled out of the deep freezer to be the chief guest at a fashion show in Poona. The organisers were so erratic that they did not even catch his name properly and kept calling him Deepak Prasad throughout the show. While he was reeling under his new name, the office-bearers pulled out

another gaffe. They called him the "former Miss India". Since boys and girls were involved in the present contest and since Deepak's entity has been a matter of controversy in the gossip press, it became more embarrassing. And all that poor Deepak could do was to keep smiling throughout, though swearing under the lips never to go to small towns.

Star Interview

Sunny Deol

Sunny has gone through both ups and downs in his short career till now. He has risen from flops and again fallen into them. At a recent shooting, he spontaneously answered some of our questions on his career graph.

Q. After "Betaab" you had again to wait for a hit till "Sohni Mahiwal". How do you manage to recover from so many failures?

A. I don't know. It is all God's grace. My career has always been like that. The line rises, then falls steeply and then rises again.

Q. The recent "Tridev" has done you a lot of good?

A. Yes, but it was followed by "Nigahen" not running well. Anyway we never expected it to be another "Nagina". But at least it could have gone ten weeks. Anyway this keeps happening. We put so much in "Yateem" and yet the result was almost zero. It was our own production. Then "Paap Ki Dunia" clicked and I popped up again.

Q. Which were the other flops that hurt you?

A. Well, "Sultana", "Ram Avtaar", "Vardi", "Joshiley". If they had run, things would have been quite different.

Q. You mean you don't have enough films?

A. Oh no. I have more than the

required twelve. "Chaalbaaz", "Ghayal", "Aflatoon", "Benaqab", "Krooh", "Aaj ka Ghulam", "Yoddha", "Shankar", "Vishnu Devaa", "Aag Ka Gola", "Farz Apna Apna", "Majboor", "Guru Chela", "Narsimha", "Gunah", "Champion", "Izzat ki Roti", "Veerta" etc.

Q. And "Tridev" must have benefited you even more?

A. No, the star ceiling comes in the way. I can't have more than a dozen films at a time. So some will have to wait. Even our home production "Ghayal" has been delayed. People don't realise that. They think stars go slow only on other producers' films. But yes, "Tridev" has brought a lot of personal fan following. That benefit is there.

Q. Are you becoming more popular than papa Dharm?

A. For heaven's sake no, don't

Owner of Pendragon castle stakes claim

King Arthur's birthplace

RAVENSTONEDALE, England, (Reuters): A ruined castle in the windswept fells of northern England may mark the birthplace of King Arthur, its owner believes.

Farmer Raven Frankland has spent nearly 30 years painstakingly restoring Pendragon castle since buying it at auction for a bargain price in 1963.

Amid the tangle of fact and myth surrounding Arthur, he believes Pendragon's claim to the legend is as strong as anywhere else's.

"It's the legendary home of Uther Pendragon, father of King Arthur," Frankland said. "I think it's the only place that claims to be the residence of Arthur's father."

Sheep graze on the banks of the River Eden beside the ruined walls of present-day Pendragon, set in the shadow of steep fells in the northern county of Cumbria.

The remains date from around 1170, when a Norman castle was built on this spot. But Frankland believes the artificial mound on which it stands dates from Roman times, when it may have served as a signal station.

He thinks the ancient British King Uther Pendragon may have built his own wooden residence on the existing mound after the Romans withdrew from Britain in the fifth century.

Hard evidence of an Arthurian connection is scarce. But the fact that the Norman castle retained the name Pendragon bears witness to the strength of the legend, as does the local folklore associated with the castle.

One local rhyme, first recorded in the 17th century, suggests Uther may have tried unsuc-

cessfully to divert the nearby River Eden to flow into the castle moat.

"Let Uther Pendragon do what he can. Eden will run where Eden ran."

Scholars have worked for centuries to unravel the truth about King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Many places, especially in Cornwall and other parts of southwest England, claim links with his exploits.

Arthur may have been a general who fought successful battles against the invading Saxons from the east all the way up and down the western side of the country," Frankland said.

Two US scholars last year pinpointed a site near Stirling in central Scotland as the probable site for Arthur's round table, which they claimed was not in fact a table but a circular meeting hall used by the King and his knights.

One of the two, Dr Norma Goodrich, agreed Pendragon castle seemed a plausible location for Arthur's birthplace. "Arthur really was born right around northern England or within a very short distance of Hadrian's wall and Carlisle," she believes.

The name Pendragon refers to a banner designed by the magician Merlin and carried by Uther into battle, Goodrich said:

"He made a banner in the shape of a dragon. It was a long pennant and had a tail of fire so that the man who fought under the banner was called the dragon — the man you'd better be scared of. It means head dragon, commander."

Uther died in battle against the Saxons

when Arthur was still a boy, the story goes. The future king was brought up by Merlin until he proved his royal blood by drawing a sword from a stone anvil and was elected king at the age of 15.

Frankland, a farmer and local councillor who works on the castle in his spare time, is well used to journalists' questions about the chances of unearthing Excalibur, Arthur's famous sword, or other finds that would substantiate the legend.

"The chances are extremely slim but of course it doesn't do to say that they're nil. It would only be if something of precious metal or bronze were to be lost.. timber, leather, iron all disappear, especially in this wet climate," he said.

Frankland, whose father was a passionate Arthurian enthusiast, jumped at the chance to buy Pendragon when it came up for auction in 1963. He paid just £525 (\$860).

The castle is closed to the public, but scholars and historians visit regularly, as do less welcome guests.

"We were worried by the fact that the tourist authorities put out a statement that there was a secret room with buried treasure, which of course is absolute nonsense, and we did find that in the unopened vault somebody had been quarrying away the wall to try to get in," Frankland said.

Normal barrel vaults, stone arches and large portions of the walls still stand, despite centuries of plundering when the castle was used as a source of stone for local buildings.

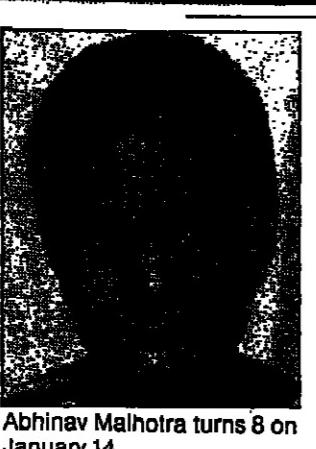


The ruined castle of Pendragon as it was when it was bought by Frankland in 1963.
(Reuter wirephoto)

Happy birthday!



Samyukta Bhowmick turned 9 on January 8



Abhinav Malhotra turns 8 on January 14



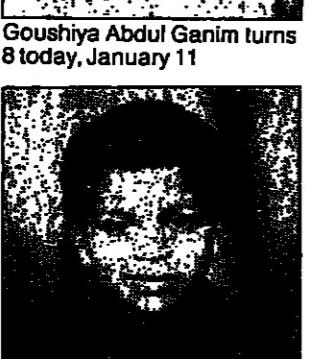
Bini Sara George turns 10 today, January 11



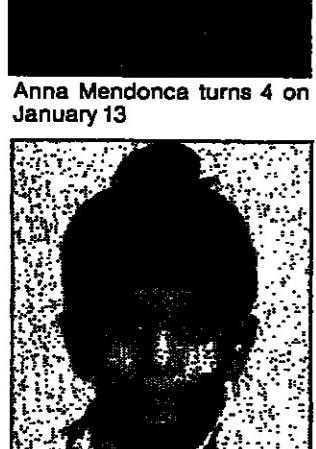
Goushiya Abdul Ganim turns 8 today, January 11



Anna Mendonca turns 4 on January 13



Faraz Siddiqui turns 5 on January 11



Punee Singh Chahda turns 5 on January 13



Mirza Baig on December 21

Join the dots



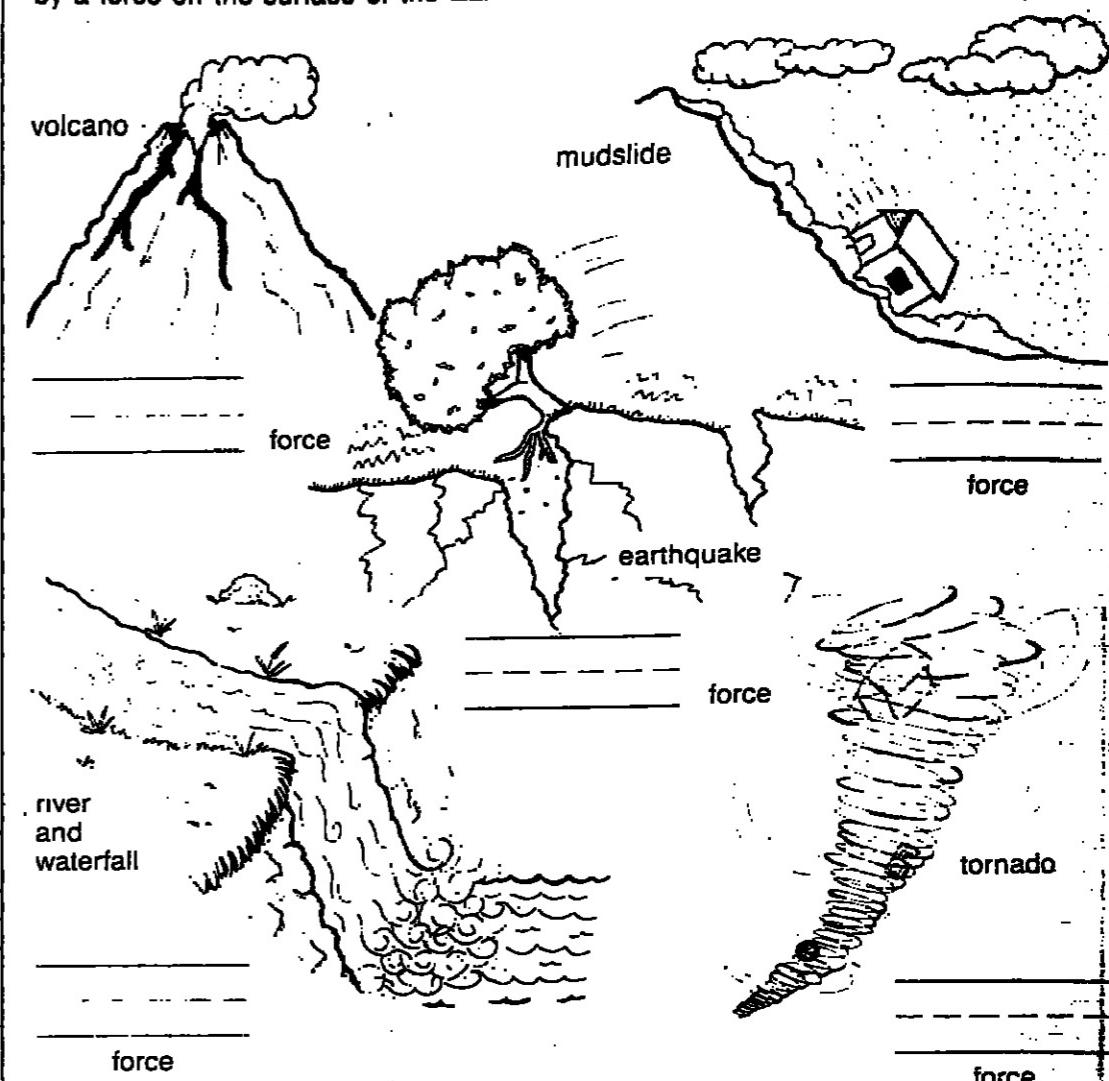
What is Leena wrapping?

Zahed M. Ali

How Does The Earth Change?

The Earth is always changing. Forces inside the Earth make it change. Forces on the surface of the Earth make it change, too.

Look at each picture. Write inside if you think the change is caused by a force inside the Earth. Write surface if you think the change is caused by a force on the surface of the Earth. Then, color the pictures.



Just for laughs!

What did Batman's mother say when she wanted to call him for lunch?
(Sing) "Dinner-dinner-dinner-dinner-dinner, BATMAN!"

What do you eat somewhere over the rainbow?
Way up pie. (Way up high.)

What goes tick-tick woof-woof?
A watchdog.

Variety

Oldest living person record puzzles

Not a big deal for Jackson Pollock

Going strong at '123'

NEW YORK, (AP): Of all the feats in the Guinness Book of World Records, being the "oldest living person" is perhaps the most tantalizing and the most open to dispute.

"No single subject is more obscured by vanity, deceit, falsehood and deliberate fraud than the extremes of human longevity," the Guinness editors assert, noting hundreds of claims of people over 100 and some, "insulting to the intelligence," of people living into their third centuries.

Yet few claims are harder to prove than extreme longevity — after all, no one else who's alive today was alive when the oldest old were born.

That is true of Carrie White of Palatka, Florida, and Jackson Pollock of Milledgeville, Georgia. The 1990 Guinness book recognizes Miss White as the oldest, at 115. But since that book went to press, Pollock has emerged with the claim that he is 123. Guinness is still awaiting proof.

In Carrie White's case, there is fairly persuasive evidence she is 115; the search for Pollock's past is fascinating but as yet inconclusive.

Miss White lives at the Putnam Memorial Nursing Home, where she likes to attend church and sing sessions. She is in good health, though she doesn't seem to understand the fuss over her age and refuses to talk about her past.

Hers is not a happy story, from what little is known. She is said to have been born Nov. 18, 1874, in Gadsden County, Florida.

As a young woman, she married John White, who was either a blacksmith or a farmer, and on the day after her 35th birthday, in 1909, he committed her to the Florida State Hospital for the mentally ill at Chattahoochee. Her diagnosis was "post-tuberculosis psychosis," and she remained there until she was, according to her records, 110.

Miss White's claim to longevity rests mainly on her medical records, which are unusual since they span so much of her life. The only possibility for fraud would be if she or her husband had lied about her age when she was committed — a possibility, certainly, but one Guinness considers unlikely.

There is no similar documentation for Jackson Pollock's life. Pollock, a tall, gangly man with a taste for Prince Albert tobacco,

MILLEDGEVILLE, Georgia, (AP): It's hard to know what to expect when you're being ushered into a hospital ward to meet the self-proclaimed oldest man in the world.

You fear he'll be in worse shape than the other patients, that you'll be intruding.

Nope. Jackson Pollock, who claims to be 123, is 6-foot-9 (2.05 metres tall), with cottony white hair. He's a healthy man, especially for someone who's 123. He likes starched shirts, hearty breakfasts and smoking a pipe, detests the hospital where he lives and chats happily with people who stop by to see him.

He even has his jokes down pat.

How old are you, Mr. Pollock?

"I'm 510 now," he says.

The Guinness Book of World Records lists Carrie White of Palatka, Florida, as the "oldest living person," at 115. Pollock insists he's eight years older.

says he was born Christmas Day 1866, served in the Spanish-American war and World War I and loaded mail and checked railroad baggage in Cleveland and New York.

He has lived in the Central State Hospital in Milledgeville since 1972.

Pollock's claim is based almost solely on his own account; Guinness, for now, remains doubtful, said editor Donald McFarlan.

The book lists Shigechiyo Izumi of Japan as the person who lived to the oldest age ever documented — 120 years, 237 days, based on census records.

But even that documentation isn't good enough for some scientists, who say it's just too unlikely that a human being could live that long.

"I don't know a single serious gerontologist in the world who believes these claims of people who are over 115," said Dr. Leonard Hayflick, professor of anatomy at the University of California at San Francisco. "As

working years on the railroads. He was in the army during the Spanish-American war and again during World War I, when he went to England and Germany.

In his younger days, Pollock enjoyed going to church about as much anything. "I'd sit down and enjoy myself; it's the best fun you can have."

He loathes hospital food, but every day enjoys a special breakfast of two eggs, two pieces of sausage, two helping of grits and two cups of scalding hot coffee.

He never drank, but says he's smoked for 117 years — Prince Albert tobacco only. He wears crisply starched khakis and silk socks and spends most of his days — and nights — reclining in his big leather easy chair.

And no, he doesn't have any arcane tips on how to live to be 123.

"Trust in God, and he'll pull you through. Just trust in God."

to family members. Guinness editors accept their birthday of Jan. 13, 1884 as authentic.

"I think there will be a time when 100 years old will be very common," said Dr. Edward Schneider, dean of the Andrus Gerontology Research Center at the University of Southern California. "I don't know about 110 but 100 will be common."

Beyond that, gerontologists say, what's the point? We all want eternal youth, but do we really want eternal age? The very old, the experts say, are rarely as interested in immortality as are younger people.

Florence Knaapp of Philadelphia lived to 114 and was, for a time, considered the world's oldest person.

"I think she could never understand why she was allowed to live so long," her niece, Ruth Oberholzer, said after her death. "One time she said that she feels like she might have been bad and this was God's way of punishing her."



Hippo-sized smooch

Right in the middle of a cold snap, these two hippopotamuses at Madrid's zoo seem to have early spring fever on a cold morning. After a

few smooches the happy muddy pair swam away from each other. (Reuter wirephoto)

Unlikely to show up on the road

Electric cars on the test track

DETROIT, (Reuters): The electric car is out of the laboratory and on the test track, but it's not likely to show up on the road just yet, industry executives say.

The chairman of Ford Motor Co. has driven and liked it. General Motors Corp. has built one such group that rivals petrol-powered vehicles. Chrysler Corp. is also working on an electric vehicle.

But the American cars and vans in showrooms during the 1990s will probably still rely heavily on the same internal combustion technology used since the invention of the automobile.

GM revived interest in the concept last week when it unveiled the Impact, a car capable of reaching speeds of 160 kph (100 mph) on air 1,900 kg (870-pound) battery pack. It beat a Mazda Miata sports car in a zero-to-95 kph (zero-to-60 mph) acceleration test, the company said.

However, despite the potential energy and clean air benefits, GM said it had no plans to mass market the vehicle.

One problem is that the amount of electricity needed to recharge the batteries of a mass-produced electric car could lead to air pollution problems from coal-fired power plants that would rival the smog troubles

generated by conventional cars.

GM chairman Roger Smith suggested that a primary source of clean energy will have to be found before the car can be made practical.

"I think we'll still play around with the electric car through the 1990s," said Neil Walling, director of advanced and international designs for Chrysler, which has been working with the city of Los Angeles on an electric vehicle.

He said the industry may be able to mass produce such a vehicle by the end of the decade but it may take incentives such as tax breaks, special parking and vehicle lanes for electric cars to lure the consumers.

Ford chairman Donald Petersen told reporters that his company has developed an electric caravan designed for city delivery use.

"I'm extraordinarily pleased with the progress they (Ford engineers) are making. I think they have come to new levels in terms of efficiency of transmitting electric power to the vehicle," he said.

"I drove it on test track. It's a very easy car to drive ... it's something that should be worked on. We are working on it. We see it having its first real application for city delivery," Petersen said.

If there are changes in basic technology in the offing, one may be the introduction of the two-stroke engine into cars built and sold in the United States.

The engine — which fires twice as fast as the traditional four-stroke engine and thus can deliver the same power in half the engine space — has been an outcast in this country because of the air pollution it produces.

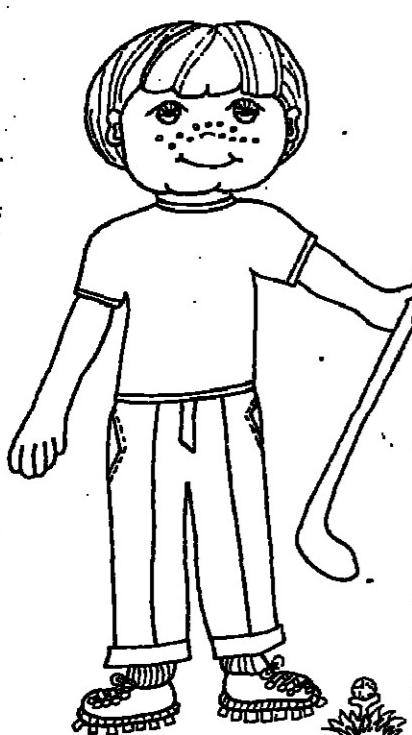
However, recent changes in technology may correct that. The consumer probably won't notice much difference, Walling said, except that two-stroke engines will have a storage compartment in both front and back because the engine takes up so little room.

Many of the manufacturers showing their vehicles at the North American international auto show in Detroit last week said the cars of the 1990s will be shaped by changes in technology that will assure quality.

Ford said one redesigned plant producing its Escort model will use nearly 100 per cent automation for body welding, with sensitive electronic monitors that shut the line down if a misalignment is detected.

If the experimental cars being shown at the show give any clue to the future, it is one with more gadgets and racy, sports-style designs.

Golfing Secret Message



659	763	953	738
-131	-101	-140	-304
a	d	e	f
973	752	947	628
-512	-610	-612	-104
g	h	i	j
783	968	938	675
-510	-214	-105	-251
n	o	r	s
953	867	986	
-111	-132	-143	
t	u	y	

Find the answers to the problems above. Each sum has a letter under it. Match these answers and letters to the boxes below. Write the letter matching each sum in the given box. What is the golfing secret message?

335		461	754	524	434	813	662
813	335	461	142	842	813	813	273
142	754	524	813	424		754	273
424	528	842	735	833	662	528	843

Young poet

Life

Life is tough,
And full of worries
Life is swift
And in great hurry

Hours run like minutes,
In these days
But "Who cares for time"
Some people say

For teenagers life is full of activities and fun,
For warriors life is full of missiles and guns,
And for parents life is full of daughters and sons

For everyone life is not the same;
Cause, not everybody considers life as a game.
For some people who are deaf, blind and lame.
Life feels to them like a curse or a shame.

But don't be sad for such a thing everyday,
Think about those who loose their lives in a sudden day,
And when you think of the gifts you still have,

Then I guess your sorrows will go away.

Souhair Butt.

Friends

Friends who love you,
Friends who care,
Are not found in this world, everywhere.

Friends are meant to help each other,
Friends can be like sisters and brothers.

True friends are so rare and precious,
So lovely and gracious.

And when you are lonely and sad,
Friends are the ones to cheer you up

And make you glad

But what's the use, if you don't trust a friend
Then I guess, you'll have a broken heart that will never mend

Souhair Butt.

The Goops



TEASING

TEASE to linger longer when your mother bids you go;
Tease to have a penny when your father answers, "No!"
Tease to have a story when your uncle doesn't please;
That's the way to be a Goop—tease, tease, tease!

Hint about the carriage when there's only room for three;
Hint about the toys you like and every doll you see;
Hint about the candy, say you're fond
of peppermint;
That's the way to be a Goop—hint,
hint, hint!

Amazing facts

About people

The country with the most television sets in the world is the tiny Pacific island of Guam, where there are 700 sets for every 1000 people. Monaco, on the edge of the Mediterranean, is the only country with more telephones than people there are 1071 for every 1000 of the population.

Slaves in ancient Rome had a life expectancy of only 17-1/2 years.

King George I of England was unable to speak English — because he was German.

During the 9th century, the Danes occupying Ireland started a "nose tax" of one ounce of gold per household. Non-payers had their noses slit.

Dr James Barry, a general in the British Army Medical Corps, was a woman — but this was not discovered until she died in 1865.

At the age of 30, Al Capone had been in control of organized crime in Chicago for four years, and his income had reached \$5,000,000. He was finally gaoled for not paying his taxes.

THE first man to fly under Westminster Bridge in London was F.K. McClean, who also flew between the upper and lower parts of Tower Bridge, and all the bridges in between, in 1912. When he landed on the river at Westminster, he was instructed by the police to move along. Unfortunately, the plane was damaged during take-off, and had to be removed by road.

The Roman emperor Caligula's real name was Gaius Julius Caesar Germanicus — Caligula was a nickname that meant 'little boots'. One of the mad emperor's more bizarre decrees was that his favourite horse, Incitatus, be made a consul of Rome.

In 1971, 29 students from a London college managed to stand on top of a Post Office pillar box.

The tallest recorded human being was Robert Wadlow, who died in the USA at the age of 22 having reached 2.27m (8ft 11in) in height. The tallest groups of people in the world are found in central Africa, where the average height of some tribes exceeds 1.83m (6ft).

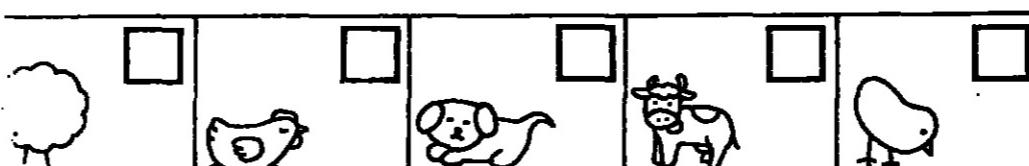
Captain William Bligh didn't only have trouble as captain of the ship Bounty. When he became governor of New South Wales in Australia, local army officers rebelled against him.



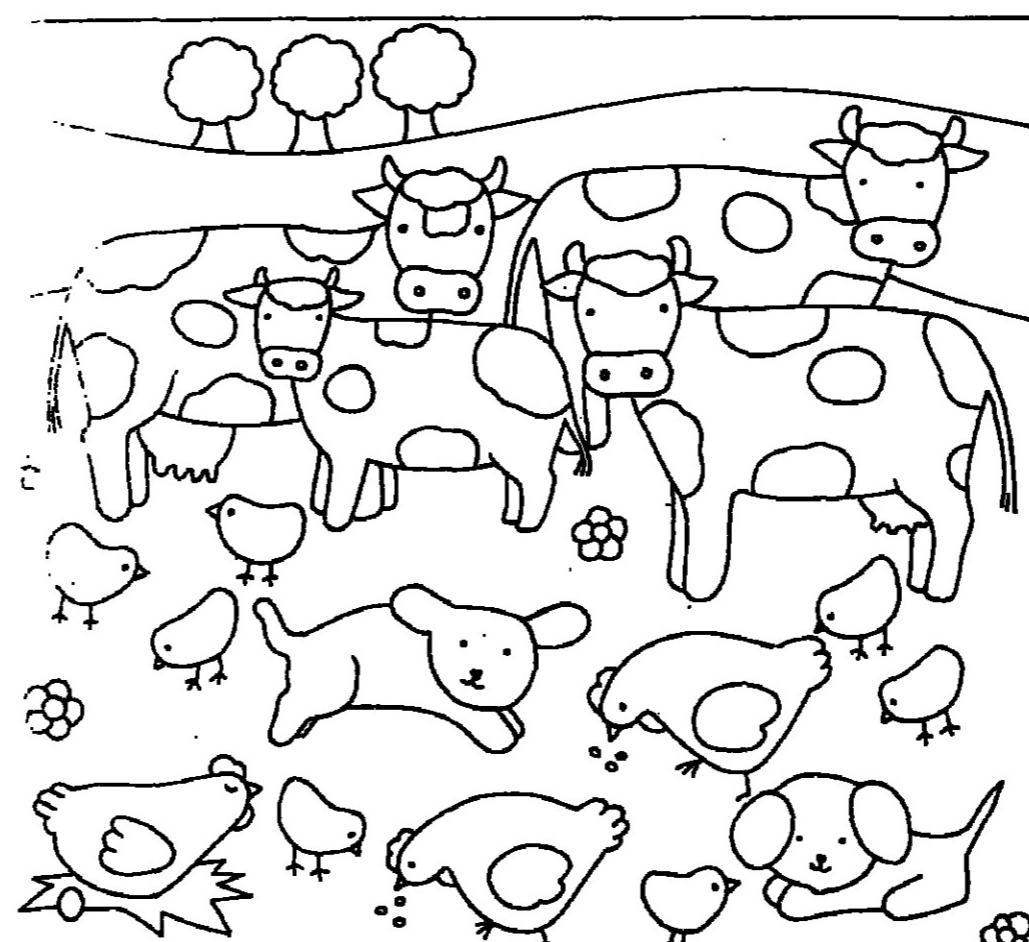
The notorious highwayman Claude Duval used to enjoy a dance with any ladies travelling in the coaches he held up!

On the farm

Count the number of trees and animals in the large picture, and write the answers in the small boxes.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7



Word search

NASHVILLE MUSIC

ART	HATS
BANJO	JUG
BARN DANCE	LEGEND
BOOTS	MICROPHONE
CONCERT	POPULAR
FIDDLE	RADIO
FOLK songs	SHOW
FULL SKIRT	SING
FUN	SQUARE DANCE
GOSPEL	STARS
GUEST	
GUITAR	

M I C R O P H O N E B B F
G T H B C O N C E R T U U
B B R E G P B F F O N L L
N V C A G U H N I H V C L
E R T N L L M D S T A H S
C B I O O A A V T H N L K
N S Q U A R E D A N C E I
A A H G U I T A R H N G R
D D B O O T S H S U U E T
N B G J W E E K B J N N R
R N N J Y H U L H G D D E
A A F V H Y G O S P E L L
B B E L D D I F T R D S A

Dear Junior readers,

Chocolates, cakes, sweets, puddings and Coca Cola are all delicious treats; we eat them because we enjoy them, rather than for their nutritional values. In fact most of them are only full of sugars which makes them harmful to our teeth.

Sugar, especially when refined (as in chocolates) tends to cling to teeth for very long periods. This provides a feast for bacteria living in mouths and as the bacteria begins to digest the food, it will also begin to eat into the tooth enamel (the outermost covering of the tooth).

The enamel is not very strong. Once the bacteria get through it, tooth decay will rapidly increase and soon there will be pain.

Please try to brush your teeth as soon as possible after eating such foods, then you will have the best of both worlds!

Manal

First and last

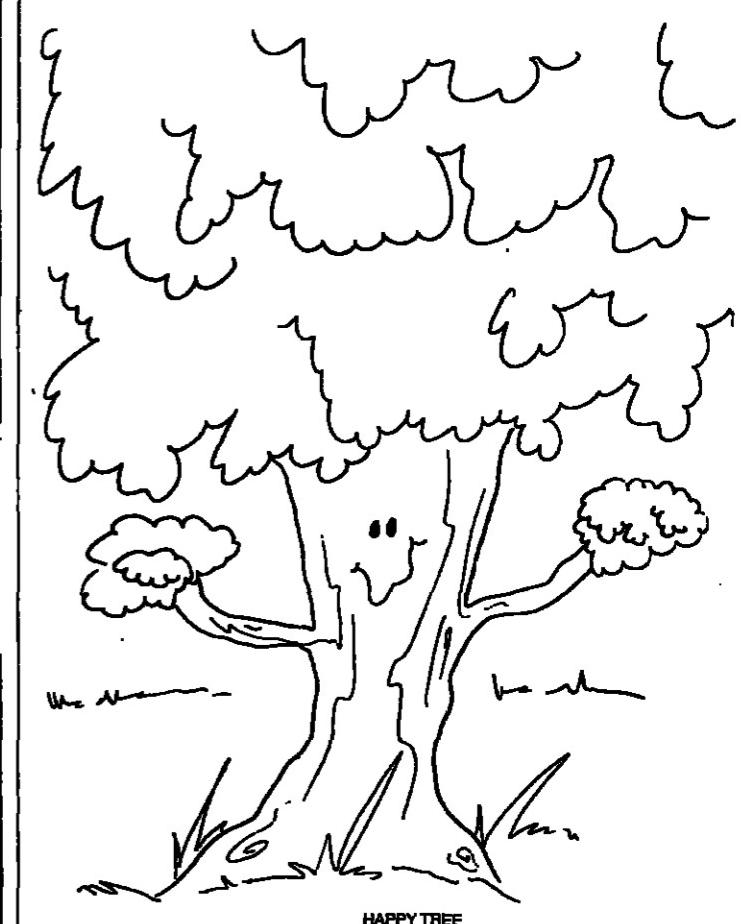
The Surrey Iron Railway became the world's first freight railway in 1803.

Proverb: "Think first and speak afterwards".

The first hitch-hikers rode on horseback for part of their journey, two travellers taking it in turns to ride the horse.

The world's first underground city railway ran from Bishop's Gate to Farringdon in London and went into service in 1863.

Colour Timing



HAPPY TREE

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?

Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?

Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!

Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.

The details we need are:

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____

School: _____

Hobbies: _____

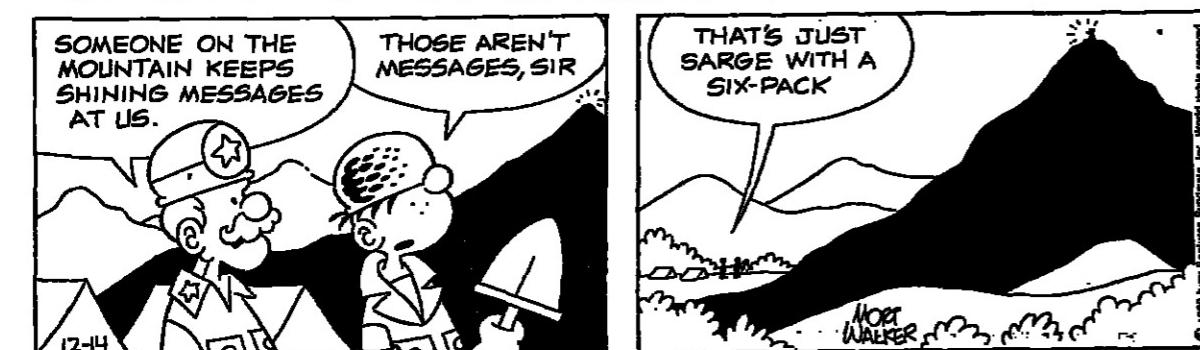
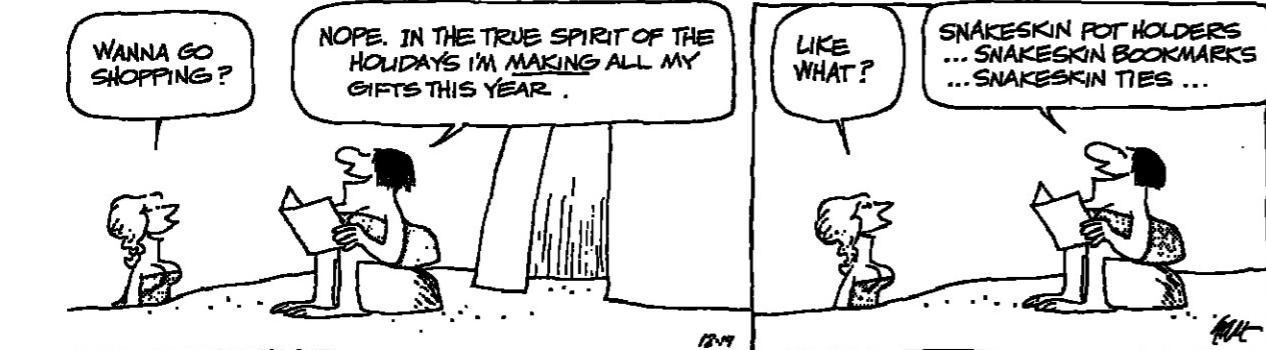
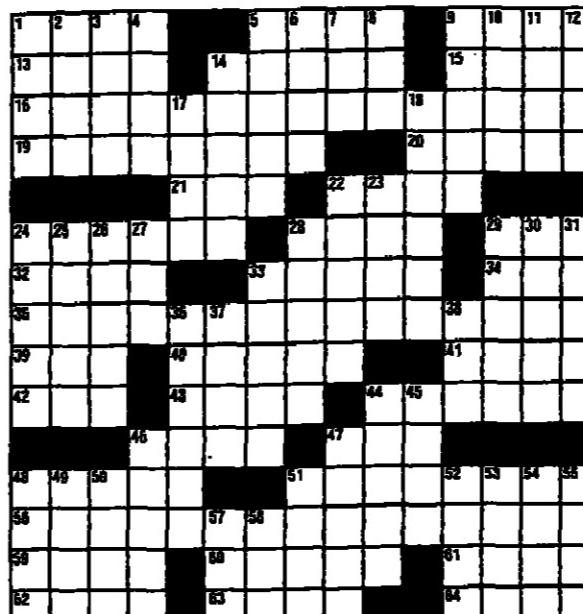
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Your
favourite
most
recent
picture
(4x6)

BLONDIE By Dean Young & Bill Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** By Dan Brown**MA GOMME** By Jan Fornet**BEETLEBAILEY** By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** By Brian Parker & John Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** By G. Foster & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

ACROSS

- 1 Wiander of tennis
- 5 Fraternity letter
- 9 Project
- 13 "Tosca" tune
- 14 "Stormy Weather" composer
- 15 Took a taxi
- 16 Useful fellow
- 17 Truant, e.g.
- 20 Olympian Jesse
- 21 These, in Toulon
- 22 Doe's baby
- 24 Roof support
- 28 Tag, e.g.
- 29 Family member, for short
- 32 Perry's creator
- 33 Packaging material
- 34 "— Maria"
- 35 Sociable fellow
- 39 "I wandered lonely — cloud"
- 40 "Die Pedermaus" role
- 41 Finished
- 42 Bottom line
- 43 Sweats
- 44 Runs, as dye
- 45 Coloids
- 47 Ranch sound
- 48 Michaelmas daisy
- 51 Alfresco
- 56 Available fellow
- 59 Sailor's direction
- 60 Borders on
- 61 Circus performer
- 62 Rogers et al.

DOWN

- 63 Rock group
- 64 — Domini
- 23 Oriental servant
- 24 Ronald's Donald
- 25 Got up
- 26 Parade attraction
- 27 One of the Kennedys
- 28 Certain Celts
- 29 Ointment
- 30 Resembling some college walls
- 31 Oracles
- 33 Crested ducks
- 36 Pub
- 37 Worshipped one
- 38 Shad delicacy
- 44 Spa features
- 45 Take on cargo
- 46 Barry and Kelly
- 47 Plays the ram
- 48 Open
- 49 Fly alone

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BABY	SCARE	CAMP
ALICE	ALPEN	AREA
SUGAR	BUSH	VALLEY
HIMS	ALBEE	BLOBS
LIEB	ALOE	
DEBUSSY	TORRENT	
ARETE	FEST	MAJ
RISE	MAIDS	HEIR
ECHO	FAST	SIEVE
SAMSONS	ALTERED	
SHOOT	TREE	IAOS
SETIN	TEE	
MARTHAS	VINEYARD	
OISE	LOIRE	ARID
GIROS	ARLES	ZANY

YOUR STARS

You should try to get out of the habit of putting things anywhere and then not being able to find them. This is not better than any other time for gambling. Spend no more than you can afford. Be sensible.



You will have to work hard if you want to meet your commitments. And you must do all you can to keep a promise. Avoid relying on guesswork and do not depend on luck. Be fair.



You are on the right track but others will not think so. Stick to your principles and do not run out of patience. Make sure you get all the rest you need but do not just put your feet up. Be frugal.



You will have to deal with a rather excitable person and you should keep calm yourself if you at all can. Avoid placing too much reliance on others. If you think once more before you act you will be glad you did so. Be reliable.



If you hope for some good luck you may have a long time to wait. You should not be late for an appointment and must be at the right place too. Try to ensure others receive good value from you. Be generous.



If you think that others will not spot an omission on your part you could well be wrong. You should not spend too much time doing puzzles or playing games just now. Curb your expenditure somewhat. Be tolerant.



The situation is favourable but you will also have to work hard. You will at last have learnt a skill which you have found hard to acquire. You should keep your eyes and ears open. Be reasonable.



You do not have enough time and room to do what you would like to do. Your lucky numbers are 12 and 35. Make sure you do not anything that would obviously harm your health. You may have some good luck but cannot rely on it. Be resilient.



You are all too liable to get things wrong. Consequently you should always check your results. You should not trust to chance or luck, instead do your best to depend on reason. Be sincere.



Pay a little more heed to other people's opinions. Do not think what you have to say on the subject is the only approach. You should ask yourself whether you have not come to the wrong conclusion. Be more alert.



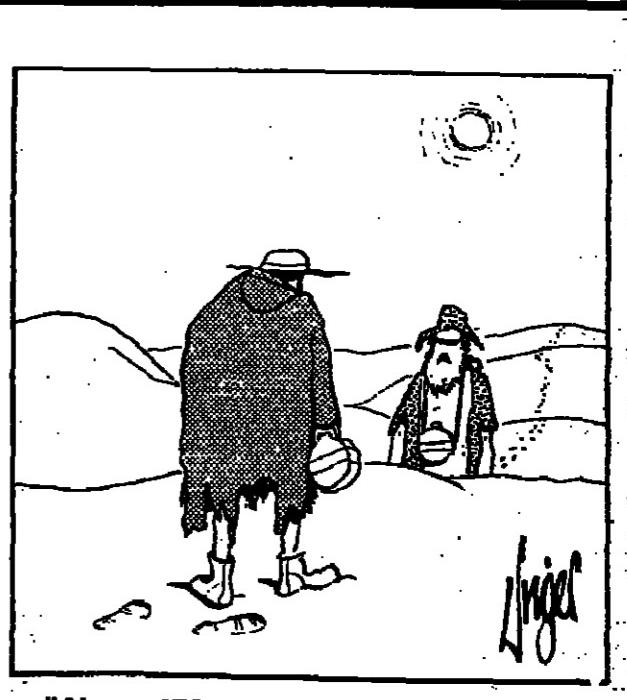
You should be a little more indulgent when dealing with a friend who has adopted some quaint ideas. Something you are reluctant to do should not be put off any longer. Try to avoid all kinds of distractions. Be moderate.



Something you had scarcely expected will come to pass but it will be relatively easy to deal with. Do not place too much reliance on something over which you have little or no control. Show just a little more goodwill. Be more patient.



"She's very quick with a potato peeler."



"About 150 miles. What about you?"

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WATCH FOR THE SNAKE IN THE GRASS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ A Q 3

♥ A 8 3

♦ Q 10 5 2

♣ Q 10 4

WEST

♦ J 9 5 2

♥ 10 9 7

♦ K Q 5 4 2

♣ 8 3

EAST

♦ K 8 7 4

♥ 6

♦ 8 6 4 3

♣ A K J 5 2

SOUTH

♦ 10 6

♥ 6

♦ K 8 6 4 3

♣ A K J 5 2

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

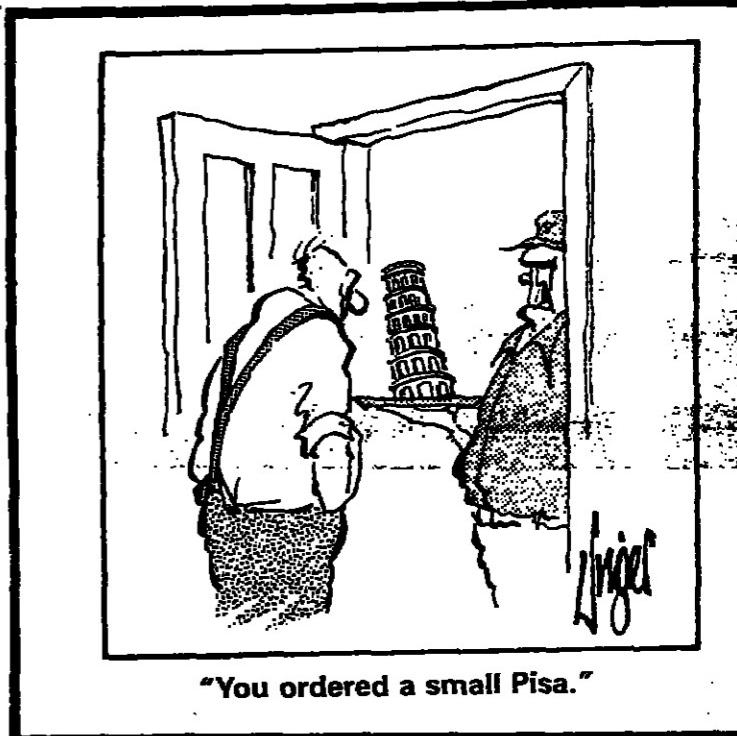
Here's a hand to test your dummy play. Cover the East-West hands with your thumbs and decide how you would play five diamonds after the lead of the jack of hearts.

Your bidding has been excellent. Partner's jump to four diamonds showed a maximum to no trump response and a good fit, but not even that could excite you. With such a shabby trump suit, you have no aspirations beyond game.

When dummy comes down, you like what you see. You have play for your contract even if you have to lose two trump tricks, since you can score three trump tricks, five clubs, one in each major suit and a spade ruff in dummy after taking two diamonds on the clubs.

However, you could be in trouble if you win the ace of hearts and lead a diamond to your king. Suppose that West wins the ace and switches to a spade. If you finesse and it loses, or if you rise with the ace, your contract will hinge on not losing a second trump trick.

To counter the distribution that threatens your contract, you should plan to lose your trump tricks to the safe hand—in this case, East. After winning the ace of hearts come to hand (the safest way is with a heart ruff) and lead a trump. If West follows with a low trump, finesse the ten! If that loses to the jack, East cannot attack spades profitably. Win any return, drive out the ace of trumps, win the ace of spades if necessary, draw the last trump and run your clubs. If the ten of diamonds wins, continue as above. It's only fitting that, on the actual distribution, your thoughtful play is rewarded with an overtrick.



"You ordered a small Pisa."

Leisure

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Coupe, in good
condition. 1976
model, black colour,
red top.
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New & Improved

Mouse Integrates Numeric Keypad, Programmable Keys

NEW
Many people feel that because they input data via the keyboard, a mouse hinders rather than enhances their productivity. The Power-Mouse 100, from ProHance Technologies, lets users have the best of both worlds: it integrates a two-button mouse with 40 programmable keys, keys preprogrammed with widely used spreadsheet functions, and a numeric keypad.

You define the attributes of the KD65/PowerMouse 100's keys within a key-definition table—you can have an unlimited number of definition tables. The PowerMouse 100 comes with preprogrammed functions for Lo-



lus: J-2-3 and other spreadsheet packages. Predefined functions include programming statements, TSR hotkeys, and macros (such as copying, erasing, and range formatting). The mouse works with applications that do not have existing mouse support as well as those that support two-button mice, according to the company. It comes with drivers and software to configure it for use with software such as word processors, databases, and desktop publishing programs. Featuring BIOS-compatible Microsoft Mouse emulation, the PowerMouse uses opto-mechanical technology and interfaces with your RS-232 port (the package includes a 9- to 25-pin adapter) at a user-selectable speed of between 1,200 and 38,400 bits per second.

Sahara Computing Systems
P.O. Box 26971 Safat 13130 Kuwait
Tel: 2402611-2402612-2407185/6
Telex: 23215 COLAB KT Fax: 2402613

Also available at Nouri & Partner Computer 2000 Atlantic General TC
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appliances in good condition.
Also paintings and Indian carpets.
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electrical items. Owner leaving
Kuwait. Tel: 2419327 after 1 pm.
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COMPLETE household items for
sale. Tel: 2422992 after 8 pm.
(AT5-51001-3)

HOUSEHOLD items for sale.
Tele. 2668245, after 4 pm.
(AT5-51026-3)

ONE bedroom apartment on
Fahad Al Salem Street for sale
with or without contents. Available
at the end of February. For
details, tele 4761207, after 7 pm.
(AT5-AJ-TM-3)

USED household items: fridge,
freezer, upright dishwasher,
clothes washer, all Indesit, JVC
portable videorecorder, AC,
cooker, sofa chairs, IBM electric
typewriter, beds. Tele. 4717403.

(AT5-51093-3)

MAID required for a small family
to live-in or part-time at Jabiya.
Tele. 5320139.

(AT6-51047-3)

MAID required for an Indian
family with 2 children to live-in
in Sabah Al Salem. Must speak
English. Visa will be arranged.
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(AT6-51082-3)

MAID required for an Indian
family, full-time in Juleeb Al
Shiyookh. Must be experienced,
preferably English-speaking
(TamiD) and have transferable
visa. Salary KD50. Tele. Madhuwar,
4314930, after 2 pm.
(AT5-51034-3)

DINING table, IKEA bed, sofa,
refrigerator, gas cooker, washing
machine, carpet, curtains, TV
serial and rotor, child's bed, cupboard,
kitchen utensils and Apple
computer. Tele 4738211.

(AT5-51073-3)

MAID required, Indian, for a small
family. Good experience
necessary. Must be willing to
move to Canada. Tele. 473255.

(AT4-JF-TM-3)

PASSPORT No. B-49987 in the
name of Candido Silvester
Ferrao, Indian. Finder please tele
Mr Tawfiq, 5742504.

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MUSLIM maid required. Filipino
or Indian for a Kuwaiti family. She
must know how to cook Kuwaiti
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TYPewriter, Brother CE-50,
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print quality, correction memory,
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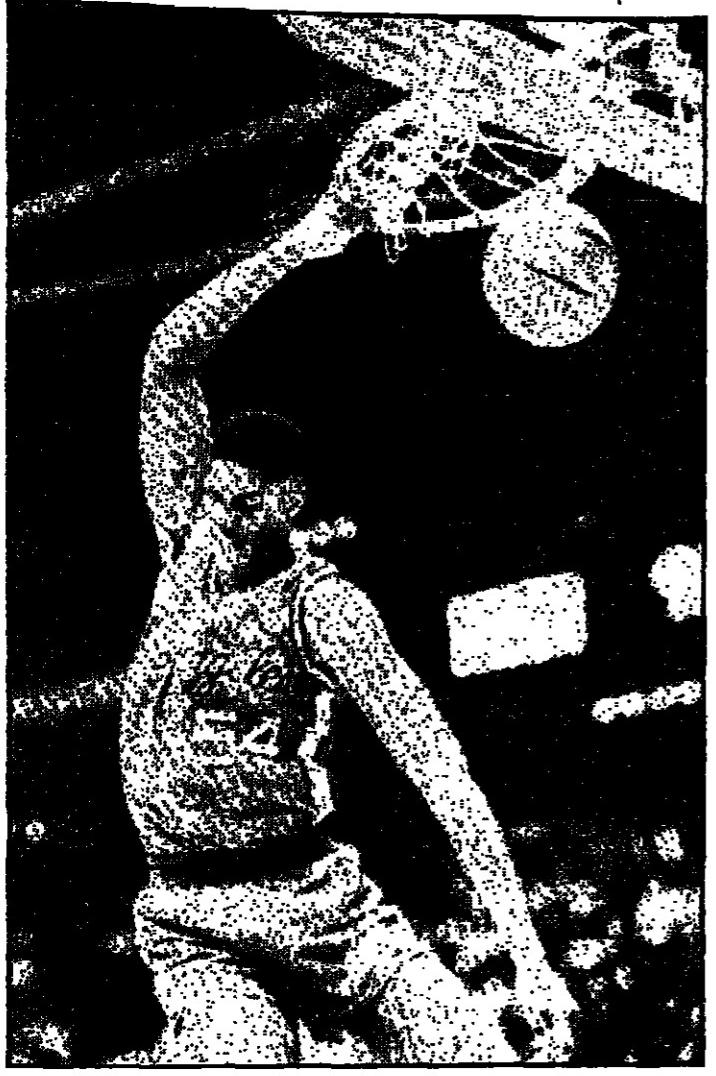
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Suns beat Lakers in overtime

Ewing takes Knicks past Bullets



Clippers' Charles Smith slams dunks for two points

NEW YORK, Jan 10. (AP): Patrick Ewing scored 35 points, including two go-ahead free throws with 31 seconds left in overtime, as the New York Knicks beat the Washington Bullets 131-127 last night despite a season-high 2 points by Bernard King.

Ewing made all six of his free-throw attempts in overtime, which was tied five times before he made it 129-127. Mark Alarie then missed a jumper for the Bullets, who got another chance when Trent Tucker threw away an inbounds pass for the Knicks.

Ledell Eackles missed a 3-pointer that Tucker rebounded with one-tenth of a second to go. Tucker then hit two free throws for the final margin. The Bullets, who lost their 13th consecutive road game, never trailed until Ewing's baseline shot with 1:28 left in regulation gave the Knicks a 114-113 edge.

New Jersey limited Boston to a franchise-low six points in the second period as Sam Bowie led the Nets to victory. The total was the second-lowest second-quarter total in NBA history.

The Celtics, without top scorer Larry Bird for the second straight game because of a sprained ankle, saw a five-game road winning streak snapped. Reggie Lewis led Boston with 22 points.

Purvis Short scored 17 points in place of the injured Dennis Hobson for the Nets. Roy Hinson scored 14 points for the nets.

Clippers 108, Hornets 98
Ron Harper scored 19 of his 25

points in the second half as the Los Angeles won for the third time on the road this season.

Charles Smith scored 23 points and grabbed 15 rebounds and Danny Manning added 22 points as the Clippers went on a 16-2 tear late in the third quarter to take a 74-66 lead after trailing by six.

The Hornets were led by Dell Curry, who scored 23 points, and forward Arman Gilliam, who added 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Spurs 107, Heat 102

Willie Anderson led a late rally that enabled San Antonio Spurs to surpass its victory total for all of last season and hand Miami its 11th straight loss.

The victory was the 10th in 12 games for the Spurs, who won for the 22nd time this season.

The Spurs trailed 93-91 when Anderson, who scored 26 points, hit a short bank shot with 3:32 left to start a decisive eight-point run.

Pistons 100, Bulls 90

Detroit's Joe Dumars scored 24 of his 28 points in the first half and helped hold Chicago's Michael Jordan to five points in the second half.

Jordan, who scored 40 points against Detroit in their previous meeting, which Chicago won, finished with 16 points for the Bulls, who sustained their fourth straight regular-season loss at the Palace, dating back to last season.

Suns 121, Lakers 118 (OT)

Kevin Johnson scored 10 of his 34 points in overtime, including

four free throws in the final 10 seconds for Phoenix.

The Suns beat the Lakers, who got a club-record-tying 24 assists from Magic Johnson, for only the eighth time in their last 33 meetings.

Tom Chambers added 34 points for the suns, including a basket that tied the game at 102 at the end of regulation play. James Worthy had 25 points and Magic Johnson 24 for the Lakers.

Rockets 97, SuperSonics 90

Akem Olajuwon scored 38 points, including eight in the final five minutes, and got 15 rebounds to lead Houston.

Olajuwon scored 25 points in the second half in Houston's third straight victory and its sixth straight at home.

Kings 84, Timberwolves 70

Dick Motta picked up his first victory as Sacramento coach, and the NBA season-low for the fewest combined points in a game was matched when the Kings beat Minnesota.

Rodney McCray led Sacramento, which won for just the second time in 15 games, with 21 points. Tony Campbell scored 20 for the Timberwolves, who lost their sixth straight road game.

Results

	131	108	100	98	107	87	121	118	100	97	84	127	98	102	78	131	108	90	70
New York	131	108	100	98	107	87	121	118	100	97	84	127	98	102	78	131	108	90	70
LA Clippers																			
Detroit																			
San Antonio																			
New Jersey																			
Phoenix																			
Houston																			
Sacramento																			



Johnson (right) beating Lewis to the finish line in Seoul. (Reuter filephoto)

'Johnson supplemented steroid use'

WASHINGTON, Jan 10. (AP): Canadian track star Ben Johnson supplemented his steroid use with an unspecified amphetamine before competing in the 100-metre race at the Seoul Olympics, gold medal winner Carl Lewis said in a report published yesterday.

Lewis made the allegation during an interview with Washington Post newspaper reporters and editors.

"Everybody talked about it and knew it," Lewis was quoted as saying. "Five weeks earlier in Zurich, he had the same lead over me in Seoul and he lost it. Five weeks later, he has the same lead and doesn't lose an inch."

Johnson defeated Lewis in their meeting at the 1988 Olympics with an amazing time of 9.79 seconds. But he was discovered to have been using anabolic steroids in the weeks prior to the race and was stripped of his gold medal.

He declined to identify the substance that Johnson allegedly took to enhance the performance of the steroids.

Lewis said he had never taken steroids and called for the dismissals of any track and field coach

dispenses them.

He refused to confirm reports that he and Johnson would race after Johnson's two-year international suspension is lifted on Sept. 25, but said such a venture was "a possibility, 50-50 at best."

Lewis, who finished second with a time of 9.92 seconds, was declared the winner of the race following Johnson's disqualification and was awarded the gold medal.

"In the heats, he would run out of gas. He didn't finish well. But in the final, I knew he was taking something... for his finish. We're not talking about someone who was just playing coy. We're talking about somebody who took something," Lewis said.

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Palmer and Morgan elected to baseball Hall of Fame

NEW YORK, Jan 10. (AP): Jim Palmer and Joe Morgan, who made great baseball teams even better in the 1970s, last night became the 20th and 21st players elected to the Hall of Fame in their first year of eligibility.

Queen Elizabeth head of the Commonwealth, will close the Games on February 3 while her youngest son, Prince Edward will open them.

Royal visits have long attracted Maori demonstrations, the most notorious of which was a 1983 incident when veteran campaigner Dun Mihaka displayed his bare backside to royal heir Prince Charles.

"I'm sure there will be some sort of protest," said Aldridge. "There will be a few but I don't think it'll have any effect on the Games."

Bun Mihaka was unavailable for comment on whether protesters would fulfil his long-standing promise to give the royals a "21 bum salute."

It was, however, another year of disappointment for several other top pitchers. Gaylord Perry, a 300-game winner, came up short and Ferguson Jenkins

Schmidt gets permission to compete for W. Germany

and Jim Bunning also failed.

"There was a lot of doubt in

my mind in terms of getting in the first year. There are a lot of guys

who deserve it who don't," Palmer said from a celebration party in Towson, Maryland. "To get in the first year is really special."

Palmer was named on 411 of

444 votes cast by members of

the Baseball Writers' Association of

America. His 92.5 per cent

trumped only Bob Feller's 93.75

per cent in 1962 among pitchers.

Players need 75 per cent to be

elected to the hall and this year,

that meant 333 ballots. Morgan

got 363 votes for 81.7 per cent.

The move will allow Schmidt

to compete for West Germany at the European Track and Field Championships in Split, Yugoslavia, in August, the newspaper Deutsche Sporthochschule said.

Schmidt, who is still one of the top-ranked discus throwers in the world although he will be 36 next week, was expelled from the East German national team in 1981 and jailed in 1982 after stating his wish to move to West Germany.

The newspaper said the recommendation to the East German sports authorities was made by a track and field commission that included Olympic champions Juergen Schult and in Towson, Maryland. "To get in the first year is really special."

Can players avoid choking in the Majors, like Scott Hoch who missed a two-foot put that would have won the Masters. Norman who missed up the last

playoff hole in the British Open, and the normally steady Kite and Mike Reid who

blew up while leading late in the US Open and PGA tournaments?

Schmidt, a former world record holder, was allowed to leave East Germany in November 1987 and resettled in West

Germany until now and he was forced to miss the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Under international rules, an athlete has to wait three years from the date of resettlement until he is allowed to compete for his new country.

The wait can be reduced to one year if the two countries agree.

But in Schmidt's case, the East Germans have refused until now to give their go-ahead to the outstanding discus thrower.

Since the political changes in East Germany, East and West German sports officials have several times to discuss closer cooperation and Schmidt's case has been high on the agenda.

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LA preparing for US festival

LOS ANGELES, Jan 10. (AP): Organizers are lining up competition venues and recruiting the first corporate sponsors for the 1991 US Olympic Festival in Los Angeles.

The Olympic festival, an annual US competition first staged in 1978, will be held in Minneapolis this year and will run from July 12-21 in Los Angeles in 1991.

Harry Usher, general manager of the Los Angeles Olympic organizing committee and chairman of the board of directors for the festival, said yesterday that the athletes will be housed at UCLA.

Games organisers expect success

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 10. (Reuter): Organisers of the Auckland Commonwealth Games, the biggest in the event's 60-year history, expect success despite a string of harrowing setbacks.

In the last six months they have had to deal with a boycott threat, a potential 25 million dollar (\$15 million) loss and former Games chairman David Johnson appearing in court.

In addition Johnson's successor recently spent a week in hospital after being admitted to a coronary ward and demonstrations by Maoris cannot be ruled out.

But despite the difficulties, chief executive Tom Aldridge feels all the major problems have now been overcome. "They are not new. Every Games has its problems... there's no doubt the Games will be a great success," he told Reuters.

Johnson was charged with conspiracy in an alleged multi-million dollar fraud related to his private business affairs, an accusation he vigorously denies.

He agreed to resign a month ago as Games chairman and has since given up as a Games director to fight the charge against him.

Almost 3,500 athletes and officials are expected for the Games' opening on January 24 — 50 per cent more than any of the past events, born in Canada as the 1930 British Empire Games.

The last Games four years ago in Edinburgh were substantially undermined when more than half the

team staged a boycott over Britain's refusal to impose economic sanctions on South Africa.

They also amassed big debts and had to be bailed out by businessmen including British media tycoon Robert Maxwell.

Six months ago the Auckland Games seemed to be heading the same way.

Announcements of rebel rugby and cricket tours to South Africa included British sportsmen raised fears of another boycott or an attempt to exclude British teams.

Faced with the prospect of another fiasco, many potential sponsors dropped plans to back the Games. This plunged the organisers, already struggling to raise funds due to a depressed New Zealand economy, into deep financial trouble.

SPORTS

dear Tip

Sampras upsets Mayotte

Lendl, Becker win

SYDNEY, Jan 10. (Reuters) Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker moved towards their first anticipated showdown of the 1990s with easy first round wins at the New South Wales Open tennis tournament today.

The world's top two players, seeded to meet in Sunday's final of the rain-hit event, dropped only nine games between them as they made a welcome return to the court after yesterday's complete wash-out.



Lendl has his eyes firmly set on the ball. (Reuter wirephoto)

Robinson's admiration for Montana wearing thin

ANAHEIM, California, Jan 10. (AP) Even though John Robinson is a longtime admirer of Joe Montana, his admiration may be getting slightly frayed around the edges.

Explaining why his team won't be blitzing much Sunday in the playoff game against the San Francisco 49ers, the Rams coach said: "I don't think you want to mess around with Joe too much."

Then Robinson muttered, shaking his head and laughing softly, "I'm sick and tired of him."

"Montana has caused Robinson more than his share of headaches, dating back to when Robinson was the coach at the University of Southern California in the 1970s and Montana was the quarterback at Notre Dame.

"I remember the game where he completed something like 18 in a row against us and brought them from two touchdowns down to go ahead," Robinson said.

That was in 1977, and although Montana led the Irish to three touchdowns in the final quarter, he came up short for once. The Trojans won 27-25 on a late field goal.

The Rams take on the 49ers for the National Football Conference championship on Sunday. The victor will play the winner of the American Football conference championship game between Cleveland and Denver in the NFL's Super Bowl championship game.

In seven years as the Rams coach, Robinson has seen several of the dramatic comebacks that have made Montana and the 49ers the National Football League's dominant team of the '80s.

He watched from the sidelines a month ago at Anaheim stadium as Montana rallied the 49ers from a 17-point deficit in the final quarter to a 30-27 victory over the Rams.

Should the Browns fail to make the Super Bowl this year, 24-year-old Michael Dean Perry is likely to get another chance somewhere down the line.

For a handful of his aging teammates, though, this may be the last gasp.

"You'd like to see those guys get to the Super Bowl, guys who have been with the organization a long time," said Perry, the only Cleveland player to make the all-pro team. "And people say I'll be around for a lot more years. That's true, but you might not get this kind of opportunity very often."

Perry, a second-year player, still feels the hurt along with Ozzie Newsome, Cody Risen, Carl Hairston and Clay Matthews.

"If I was denied two trips to the Super Bowl by the same team and now we have to play them a third time, there'd be a little revenge on my mind, a little payback," Perry said.

Lendl disposed of his former doubles partner Andrew Sznajder of Canada 6-1 6-3 before, Becker took his place on centre court to muscle his way past Alexander Volkov of the Soviet Union 6-3 6-2.

Lendl served 11 aces but was not altogether happy in the breezy, overcast conditions.

"I didn't find the conditions very easy today but it was good to get out and hit a lot of balls," he said.

Fourth seed Tim Mayotte became the first major casualty of the tournament when he crashed out in straight sets to fellow American qualifier Pete Sampras.

Mayotte served a double fault to lose a first set tie-break and the 18-year-old Sampras took full advantage to win 7-6-2.

Sampras, who beat Mats Wilander at last year's US Open, afterwards described the result as "one of the biggest wins of my career."

"He knew I could play tennis. I don't know if he's psyched out when he plays me but it seems as though he doesn't play as well as he's capable of against me," said Sampras.

— Results —

Men's singles, first round (seeds in parentheses):
Yannick Noah, France (8) def. Ronald Agmon, Israel, 6-4, 6-3; Ivan Lendl, Czechoslovakia (1) def. Andrew Sznajder, Canada, 6-1, 6-3; Boris Becker, West Germany (2) def. Alexander Volkov, Soviet Union, 6-3, 6-2; Mats Wilander, Sweden (3) def. Paul Annacone, US, def. Mark Kitzmann, Australia, 6-1, 6-4; Pete Sampras, US, def. Tim Mayotte, US (4), 7-6(8-5), 6-2; Aaron Krickstein, US (5), def. Jan Gunnarsson, Sweden, 7-6 (6-4), 6-2; Jean Pfeil, Switzerland, 6-3, 6-2; Yannick Noah, France (6), 6-2, 6-2; Nicolas Kroon, Sweden, def. Christo van Rensburg, South Africa, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2; Omar Camporese, Italy, def. Jordi Arrese, Spain, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; Goran Ivanisevic, Yugoslavia, def. Sergi Bruguera, Spain, 7-5, 6-2; Carsten Steeb, West Germany (7), def. Leonardo Lavalle, Mexico, 6-4, 6-4.

Women's singles, first round:
Nicole Probst, Australia, def. Catherine Tanvier, France, 6-0, 6-3; Jana Novotna, Czechoslovakia (2), def. Rachel Matijevic, Australia, 6-1, 6-2; Nicole Probst, Australia, def. Elise Burdin, US, 6-3, 6-2; Any Prazer, France, 6-4, 6-2; Elizabeth Stosur, Australia, def. Louise Pichot, Australia, 6-3, 6-7 (6-8); Renate McQuillan, Australia, def. Robin Whise, US, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; Brenda Schultz,

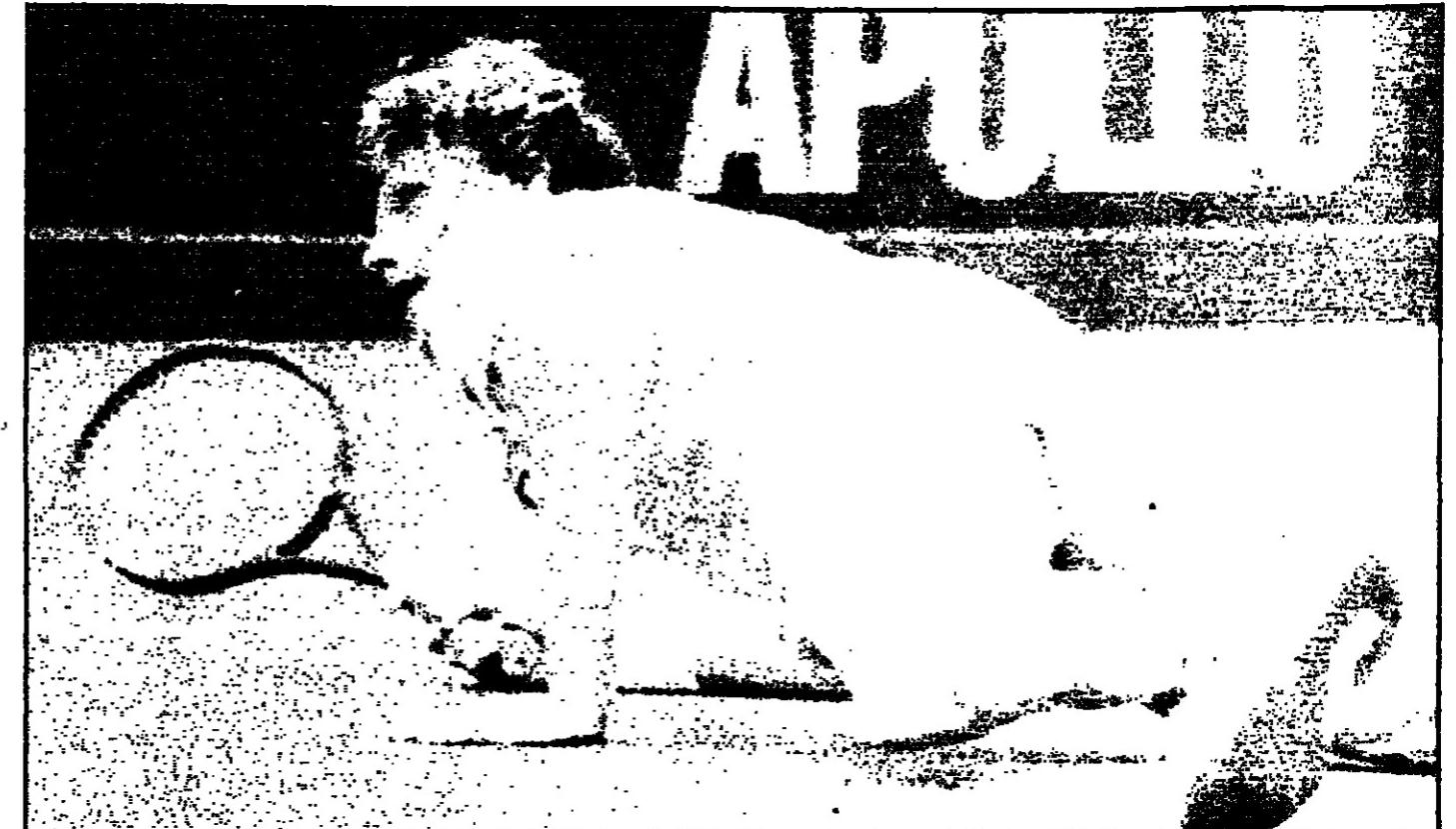
France's Yannick Noah took just 27 minutes in the morning to complete a 6-4 6-3 win over Ronny Agenor.

In another interrupted contest in the women's singles, Claudia Porwilk of West Germany knocked out twelfth seed Patty Fenwick of the US 5-7 5-6 3-6.

Becker later said he was satisfied with his start to the tournament.

"It was a pretty good start. I played better today than I did in last year's Australian Open," he said.

"Last year, I took too much time off between the Davis Cup final and the Australian Open and I didn't want to make that mistake again."



Becker lies on the court after falling while playing a shot. (Reuter wirephoto)

Krishnan and Gustafsson in last eight

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 10. (AP) Defending champion Ramesh Krishnan of India struggled past New Zealander Bruce Derlin 7-6 (9-7), 7-5 today, advancing to the quarterfinals of the \$175,000 Benson and Hedges New Zealand Open tennis championship.

Krishnan had to tie two set points in the first set tiebreaker, which he eventually won. He then led 4-1 in the second set but allowed Derlin back to 4-4 before finally taking control.

"You only need to turn a few points the other way and it could have been 7-6, 7-5 for him," Krishnan said.

Derlin said he had not played aggressively enough in the second round match of the 32-draw tournament.

Third seed Swede Magnus Gustafsson, fifth seeded Amos Mansdorf and eighth seeded Scott Davis of the United States all joined unseeded Krishnan in the last eight.

Gustafsson was in awesome form in beating Briton Jeremy Bates 6-2, 6-0 in just 51 minutes. From 1-2 in the first set, Gustafsson won 11 games straight to set up a quarter-final clash with Krishnan.

"I wanted to chip and charge and attack his second serve, but his second serve is harder than his first," Bates said. "I tried to keep the ball in play but he would hit a winner after three or four shots."

Davis had four match points in the second set against himself before finally winning 6-1, 6-7 (7-9), 6-2.

Mansdorf, the 1988 champion, beat Olivier Delaître of France 6-2, 7-5 in 74 minutes and will meet the winner of tomorrow's second round match between Americans Jimmy Arias and Glenn Layendecker.

Top seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union plays Richy Renzberg of the United States in another second round match slated for tomorrow.

The tournament continues through Sunday.

McEnroe prepares for Open

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 10. (Reuters) John McEnroe, who once vowed never to play again in Australia, is making a big effort to prepare for next week's Australian Open despite dismissing it as less important than the other Grand Slams.

The former enfant terrible of the tennis circuit commented on the first Grand Slam of the 1990s as he began his preparations at the four-day Rio International Challenge in Adelaide.

"I tried to get down here as early as I could to give myself the best chance," the American said.

"I feel like I'm as prepared as I have been, but it's always been a difficult tournament for me."

Last year, he won a rock star's welcome when he returned to the Australian Open for the first time since December 1985, when he had vowed never to play there again after clashes with the media and a shock defeat to Yugoslav Slobodan Zivojinovic.

McEnroe never hid his hatred of the cramped old Kooyong courts in Melbourne — the scene of his 1985 debacle — which he once described as "the worst grass court I have ever played on."

He was so incensed by the "skating rink" conditions that he won a 21-day suspension for one two-word outburst in 1985.

The move to Flinders Park changed all that and this year, despite insisting that the Open was "not as important as the other big tournaments," McEnroe said he was making a big effort to acclimate to the Australian summer.

He guided the United States to the Hopman Cup final in Perth last week, only to lose to Spain, and has been travelling with wife Tatum O'Neal and young sons Kevin and Sean.

The world number four, who reached the quarterfinals last year and the semifinals on grass at Kooyong in 1983 — his best performance at the Open — said: "If conditions at Flinders Park are reasonable, my chances are good."

"It's tough, if you go out there and it's 140 degrees (Fahrenheit, 60 Centigrade) on the court, anything could happen."

But he added: "I couldn't play six or seven straight matches at the top of my game if it's hot."

McEnroe said the Open could boil down to the survival of the fittest, favouring world number one Ivan Lendl.

"It's sort of like a crap shoot (dice game). There's not that many guys that are at their best form-wise, but some guys could be very fit at this time... a guy like Lendl, he gets down here early and he's very fit," McEnroe said.



John McEnroe

Tyson-Holyfield fight date set

NEW YORK, Jan 10. (AP) Mike Tyson will defend the heavyweight championship against Evander Holyfield in June 18, a spokesman for promoters Dan Deva said last night.

Kathy Duva, the promoter's wife who also serves as publicist, told the Associated Press by telephone that her husband and promoter Don King had reached agreement for the fight during a meeting in Las Vegas last night.

The financial split will be two-thirds for Tyson and one-third for Holyfield, Duva said.



Gower escapes death

LONDON, Jan 10. (Reuters) Former English cricket captain David Gower narrowly escaped death by leaping from his car just before it plunged into a frozen Swiss lake, the Daily Mirror said today.

Gower, 32, had driven the hired car on to the frozen surface of Lake St Moritz following other tyre tracks and thinking it was safe on his way home from dinner with friends, it said.

"I was looking for the bank and the way back on to the road when I thought, my God, that's water, not ice and snow in front of me... the next thing I knew, there was the almighty sound of cracking ice," the paper quoted him as saying.

"Luckily I got the door open and was immediately in freezing water... when I got back with some helpers, the car had sunk without trace."

Gower said he was so shaken he went to a church to say a prayer of thanks.

PAM slams English tour of South Africa

Sri Lanka manager defends De Silva

Aravinda: backed by manager

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 10. (Reuters) Sri Lanka has blamed Tasmanian bowler Rod Tucker for provoking a scuffle with star batsman Aravinda de Silva during a tour game earlier this week.

Team manager Nisal Senaratne told reporters today no disciplinary action would be taken against De Silva and he had no intention of taking the issue further.

The Australian Cricket Board yesterday said De Silva had apologised and admitted a breach of the player's code of behaviour after Tasmanian captain Dirk Wellham complained.

"The incident was sparked off by Tucker making some unpleasant remarks, threatening physical harm at Aravinda and obstructing Aravinda who was proceeding to make his first run," Senaratne said.

Tucker's remark that he would "blow his head off" was a reaction to Aravinda stepping out to strike a glorious on drive. Aravinda reiterated that he did not strike Tucker intentionally, he said.

The scuffle took place at Devonport Oval in Tasmania shortly after lunch on Monday when De Silva twice ran into Tucker and on one occasion appeared to strike the medium-pacer with his bat.

Tucker chased De Silva behind the wicket and engaged in some pushing and pulling with the diminutive Sri Lankan until

the umpires and Wellham intervened.

Aravinda expressed his concern and regret for the confrontation in the "true spirit of the game," Senaratne said.

"I'm convinced Aravinda's intentions were sincere and his actions not intentional but the result of provocation, and therefore I do not intend to proceed further on this matter," he added.

The confrontation took place on the final day of a three-day draw which was drawn.

The ACB earlier said it had no jurisdiction over De Silva and any punishment should be decided by Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka starts a two-day match of 100 overs a side against the Australian Cricket Academy at Adelaide tomorrow.

In Johannesburg, a radical black anti-apartheid organisation yesterday condemned a planned cricket tour of South Africa and pledged to disrupt it, urging the English visitors to reconsider their plans or "face the wrath of Africa's sons and daughters," it said.

Pan Africanist Movement general secretary Benny Alexander refused to disclose to a news conference what methods would be used to try and end the tour.

The PAM would not seek permission from the courts to hold demonstrations, as required under South African law, Alexander said.

SPORTS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12, 1990

SPORTS BRIEFS

Le Mans race

PARIS, Jan 10, (Reuters): The chances of this year's Le Mans 24-hours sports car race going ahead receded today when the sport's governing body set a new condition on resuming talks on the event's future. Jean-Marie Balestre, president of the International Motor Sports Federation (Fisa), told a news conference there would be no more negotiations with Le Mans organisers until they apologised publicly for what he called a campaign for defamation against Fisa.

Broncos tackle

DENVER, Jan 10, (AP): Prosecutors plan to seek formal conviction and sentencing of Denver Broncos tackle Gerald Perry for soliciting prostitution in Denver, because he violated a plea-bargain agreement by being arrested in Aurora.

Girardelli out

SCHLADMING, Austria, Jan 10, (AP): World Cup overall title holder Marc Girardelli is out of racing until February to nurse injuries he suffered last month, his doctors said today.

Top golfer

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida, Jan 10, (AP): Tom Watson, who won 18 PGA Tour tournaments in the 1980s, was named Golfer of the Decade yesterday by the Professional Golfers Association of America.

Overall lead

PARIS, Jan 10, (Reuters): Twice winner Ari Vatanen of Finland shone again on the 11th stage of the Paris-Dakar Rally across 431 kms of winding desert tracks from Taboué in Niger to Niamey yesterday. Vatanen, Peugeot's top driver, scored his seventh stage win so far in the 18-stage event, strengthening his overall lead over his three team-mates.

Italian Cup

ROME, Jan 10, (Reuters): Results in the third round of the Italian Soccer Cup today:

Group A	
Ascoli	2 Inter 1
Napoli	2 Bologna 0
Milan	6 Messina 0

RESULTS of the Messilah Ladies Bridge Club game held on Monday:

- Nahil Akel & Lollo Murthwaite
- Jamila Akel & Nuela Khalaf
- Khala Hour & Nuela Kassim.

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club game played yesterday morning:

- Nahil Akel & Lollo Murthwaite
- Margaret Maynard & Suzanne Cattermole

Sharing third: Jamila Akel & Joan Hashim and Khala Hour & Nuela Kassim.

Results of Sheraton Bridge game played on Tuesday:

- N/S
- Farah
- Mrs Dona Materny & Dr Adel Shah & Merchant
- E/W
- Salman & Latifa
- M Sabri & Oskay
- Simon & Mukherjee

LIVERPOOL, England, Jan 10, (AP): Ian Rush scored three goals and John Barnes added two as defending champion Liverpool crushed tiny Swansea 8-0 last night in a replay of their third-round English Football Association Cup game.

Third-Division Swansea had held the Reds to a scoreless tie in their FA Cup soccer match Saturday in Wales, forcing the replay at Anfield.

Swansea goalie Lee Bracey held Liverpool scoreless for the first 21 minutes of yesterday's contest, extending his goalless streak against the Reds to 111 minutes. But then Liverpool exploded.

Barnes scored off a Steve Staunton pass to start the rout and Ronnie Whelan added the second goal in the 40th minute before Barnes made it 3-0 two minutes before intermission.

Liverpool, who scored nine goals against Crystal Palace in a Division One League game earlier this season, kept up the scoring in the second half. Rush scored the fourth in the 52nd minute and Peter Beardsley made it 5-0 seconds later.

Rush scored in the 77th and 83rd minutes and Steve Nicol



Rush (left) got three while Barnes scored two.

closed out the scoring two minutes later.

In other FA Cup third-round replays, Fourth-Division Cam-

bridge rallied for a 3-1 victory at non-League team Darlington and First-Division rival Millwall and Manchester City played to a 1-1 overtime tie.

Darlington, playing in front of its biggest home crowd in three years, dominated the first half and held a 1-0 lead on a goal in the 29th minute by Les McLean.

But Cambridge got goals by John Taylor and Lee Philpot in a two-minute span early in the second half and Adion Dublin added a header in the final minutes to eliminate the non-League team.

At Millwall, Jimmy Carter gave the hosts the lead in the 16th minute but Colin Hendry tied the score with 10 minutes remaining. The teams failed to score in overtime and will play again Monday at Millwall.

■ Striker Lee Chapman signed for English Second Division soccer leaders Leeds United yesterday in a £400,000 (\$600,000) transfer from First Division Nottingham Forest.

Chapman, 30, who signed a three and a half year contract, rejoins Leeds manager Howard Wilkinson, under whom he served at Sheffield Wednesday.

The striker's six previous clubs include League champions Arsenal.

The deal brings to more than

£3.5 million (\$5.8 million) Wilkinson's spending in the last 16 months.

Results

English Football Association (FA) Cup third-round replays

Darlington 1 Cambridge United 3

(Cambridge United away to Millwall or

Manchester City)

Liverpool 8 Swansea 0

(Liverpool away to Exeter or Norwich)

Millwall 1 Manchester City 1

Scottish Premier Division

Motherwell 0 Hibernian 2

English Division Four

Burnley 3 Scarborough 0

Scottish Division One

Albion 0 Hamilton 0

Partick 1 Morton 2

Scottish Division Two

Stenhousemuir 3 Berwick 3

■ Brazilian striker Careca

injured his foot in training with Italian League leaders Napoli yesterday and will be out of action for a month, the club said.

Careca is a key figure in Brazil's expected 1990 World Cup side,

splintered a small bone in his right foot when he collided with club mate and compatriot Alemao.

His injury is bad news for Napoli, whose two-point lead in the First Division has looked shaky following their first League defeat of the season on December 30 and an unimpressive 1-0 win against lowly Ascoli last Sunday.

Kuwaiti triumphs

ISLAMABAD, Jan 10, (Kuma): Kuwait scored its first victory in the KESC International Boxing Championships at KGA Gymnasium in Karachi last night through boxer Nasir Ali Qaznadi.

According to results of second day's bouts in the first Karachi Electric Supply Corporation International Boxing Championships available today, Qaznadi beat Pakistan Navy's pugilist Intizar Ali.

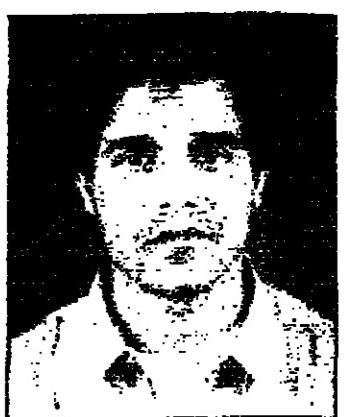
One of the most interesting bouts was between Pakistan's Olympic bronze medallist Hussain Shah and Indonesia's Bahari Pino in the middle weight category in which the latter gave tough time before going down to his Pakistani opponent.

LUCKY Star Cricket Club beat New Star by six wickets in a Farwaniya Knockout Tournament first-round match at the Farwaniya ground earlier this week.

After winning the toss, New Star captain Tariq opted to bat but the whole team was out for only 94 runs. Zahid was the top scorer with 27 while Nafis got 21.

For Lucky Stars, Mustafa Iqbal was the most successful bowler with six for 15 overs.

For TCC, Francis claimed 2 wickets while Walter Deric and Paul took one each. There were four run outs.



Lucky Star and TCC score easy victories

out on the third delivery of the 25th over. He was supported by Rudy and skipper Francis who scored 31 and 34 not out respectively. For PCCC, Sadik took 2 wickets and Shakoor one.

PCCC opened their innings through Arshad Mehmood and Atiq but the latter was out for only seven. Tahir Mehmood and Arshad Mehmood then started taking the New Star bowlers to task. Tahir was out for 25 but Arshad went on to score 49 as he took his team to victory. Anwar Khan chipped in with 20 as his team went past the victory target in the 12th over.

■ The newly formed Trishul Cricket Club (TCC), playing their first match, defeated Pakistan Central Cricket Club (PCCC) by 31 runs in a match played at the Farwaniya grounds earlier this week.

Batting first, TCC scored 190

runs for the loss of four wickets in the allotted 25 overs. The highlight of their innings was a classic 94 by the opening batsman Rony with the help of 3 mighty sixes and 10 boundaries. He was lbw

Final: PCCC mustered only 159 for 9 wickets in 25 overs. For TCC, Francis claimed 2 wickets while Walter Deric and Paul took one each. There were four run outs.

Rony hit 94

Ahmadi retain golf trophy

AHMADI Golf Club won the second leg of the annual inter-club competition which it hosted last Friday in Ahmadi, by beating the Hunting and Equestrian Golf Club by 13 matches to 8 with 3 drawn. Although, H&E had won the first leg of this event held in October by 9 matches to 7, Ahmadi finished overall winners on aggregate of 20 matches to 17 and retained the trophy for another year.

In a Scotch-foursome competition held at the Hunting and Equestrian Golf Club in the new year Samir Baluja and Suhail Gidwani played superb golf to secure first place on a comeback from HS Nam and SD So when both teams scored 65. The due of KK Lee and SW Choi carded 66 to take third place. Other scores were: G. Thuene and D. Brero —

Edberg wins

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 10, (AP): Masters champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden breezed to a 6-1, 6-3 victory over Australian Darren Cahill today in the first match of the Rio Challenge Exhibition Tennis Tournament at Memorial Drive in Adelaide.

Frenchman Henri Leconte, Americans John McEnroe and Jim Courier and in-form Austrian Thomas Muster also are in the line-up for the exhibition.

McEnroe also scored a quick-fire win in his tournament opener, downing Leconte 6-0, 6-2.

He said Qadir's right hand was bruised and he doubted the spinner would be fit to play.

Skipper Imran Khan, however, said Qadir would probably miss the Test even if he recovered as he was off form.

"There is a good chance that Qadir could be left out of the Test side on his form," he said.

Pakistan's four-day match against Queensland ended in a draw yesterday.

69. KJ Lee and YY Jin — 69.

In side competition G Gaston had the longest drive for men on the par-4 sixth and Saud Hairen won the nearest to the pin contest on the par-3 fifth. Mrs In Suk Lee won her first ever trophy when she produced the longest drive of the day in the ladies competition.

■ The Hunting and Equestrian Golf Club will hold the annual Kuwait Stableford Golf Championship on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 January.

This event is sponsored by Toyo Tyre Company of Japan through their local agents Abdulla Hadi Al-Maleem Company.

This event has attracted 90 local golfers from three local clubs.

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